

Hurd critical of Irish court's ruling

Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, criticized the Irish court over its handling of the Evelyn Glenholmes extradition request and its refusal to accept a telephone call from Scotland Yard as evidence.

But he agreed with Conservative backbenchers that there had been incompetence in the Director of Public Prosecutions' office and promised changes to avoid such failures in future.

By Anthony Bevis, Political Correspondent

Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, yesterday criticized the Irish court for refusing to allow an adjournment in the case of Miss Evelyn Glenholmes, the IRA terrorist suspect who escaped extradition to Britain on a legal technicality on Saturday.

He also appeared to criticize the court for failing to accept the "normal practice" of a telephone call from New Scotland Yard to the Garda as evidence that a fresh extradition warrant had been issued in London that morning.

But in Commons exchanges he agreed with one of his own backbenchers that there had been "incompetence" on the part of the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions and he pledged a shake-up to ensure that there would be no repetition of the "failure".

Mr Gerald Kaufman, the Opposition spokesman, said that "slackness, incompetence and complacency brought about this disgraceful episode" and he was later joined by Conservative backbenchers in fruitlessly demanding that disciplinary action should be taken against the culpable officials in the DPP's office.

There were also demands that Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney General and the law officer responsible for the

DPP's office, should answer to the House.

With Sir Michael sitting silently at his side, Mr Hurd explained that the Glenholmes extradition warrants had been considered defective because they had been based on evidence originally made on oath last October.

The October warrants had been withdrawn because of

Unionists appear to be heading for all-out confrontation with the Government after the Prime Minister insisted the Anglo-Irish Agreement would not be suspended.

Mrs Thatcher has written to the Unionist leaders saying she was prepared to talk, but that the agreement with Dublin would remain in place.

technical faults, but when new warrants had been issued in November the evidence was not re-sworn as required in Irish law.

At that point Miss Glenholmes had "disappeared from view" and when she was re-arrested on March 12 her extradition was sought on the basis of November's defective warrants.

The Home Secretary told the House: "The extradition application failed because of a

technical objection taken by the Dublin court."

He said that Sir Michael and he regretted that the objection had not been foreseen in time.

Meanwhile, Sir Michael had "instructed" Sir Thomas Hetherington, the DPP for England and Wales, and his opposite number in Ulster, "to ensure personally that all outstanding warrants in respect of terrorist offences are checked at once for accuracy and sufficiency".

In response to a question from Mr Kaufman, Mr Hurd stressed: "We have no criticism of the co-operation we received in this matter from the Irish authorities."

But he pointedly failed to deliver similar exoneration for the court.

Asked by Mr Ivor Stanbrook, Conservative MP for Orpington and a barrister, whether it would not have been sufficient for the court to adjourn the hearing "before releasing into the community a notorious wanted criminal", Mr Hurd said he chose his words with care in replying "that it would have been possible for the court to take a different decision on the request for an adjournment".

Man in the news, Page 2

Glenholmes hunt on new warrants

By Stewart Tendler and Richard Ford

Nine fresh warrants for the arrest of Evelyn Glenholmes arrived on their way to Dublin from London yesterday at the beginning of the third big police hunt for the woman since Scotland Yard named her as a Provisional IRA fugitive to a London court in 1984.

In the meantime talks have begun in London between the Director of Public Prosecutions' office and Scotland Yard to prevent another legal debacle such as the one that freed Miss Glenholmes from an Irish court at the weekend.

One possibility being advanced by the police, still angry at the weekend's events, would be special legal teams that would handle the preparations for extraditing an IRA suspect and be on hand during the Irish court case.

Garda Síochána officers began the task of trying to find Miss Glenholmes, wanted as a suspect in London bombings involving three murders, before she could be smuggled out of the Republic to a country where extradition would be even more difficult.

Sir Thomas Hetherington, the DPP, and his staff refused to comment on the case, but an angry detective said that although no DPP official was in court in Dublin for two days of the extradition hearing an English barrister and a solicitor were present advising the defence.

It is understood that no members of the DPP's staff are to face dismissal or internal discipline for the legal blunder which gave the Irish woman her freedom. An Irish judge ruled on Saturday that nine English warrants were invalid because the information on which they were issued was not sworn before the London magistrate on the day

he issued the documents to a DPP official.

The warrants were issued in November 1984 after a first set were described as defective by the Irish authorities, and the police have complained that they were left unchecked for 18 months.

One new warrant was issued on Saturday at Bow Street as the Irish court freed Miss Glenholmes. News of its issue given to the Irish police by telephone did not satisfy the judge. A DPP official, rushed to Dublin.

The warrant arrived in Dublin yesterday morning and a senior Yard source said the Irish police did not need it physically to make an arrest so the delay had no effect.

Eight warrants were issued yesterday during the day from Bow Street and a Berkshire court which covers three of the offences. The first warrant sent from London is the one that the British believe would circumvent Irish protection for offences claimed to be political. It details the murder of a civilian woman, Mrs Nora Field, killed by the Chelsea barracks nail bomb in 1981.

Neither the Pentagon nor the State Department would officially confirm the attack. It appears that there was no immediate retaliation by the American planes or the Sixth Fleet, which began manoeuvres off the Libyan coast on Saturday night in a show of resolve against Libya's territorial claim over the entire gulf.

"There were reports of surface-to-air missiles, not dog fights," one source said last night. He added that there was evidence of an increasing

Libyan forces fired at least two Soviet-made anti-aircraft missiles at US war planes yesterday when they flew over Colonel Gaddafi's "line of death" across the Gulf of Sirte, according to Pentagon sources. The missiles apparently missed by a wide margin.

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Six die as fierce gales and snow sweep country



The uprooted tree which crashed down on a makeshift classroom in Maidstone, Kent causing the death of a pupil aged 18

Tragedy as tree falls on school

By Patricia Clough

A youth aged 18 was crushed yesterday after a 60-foot tree crashed into a makeshift classroom in Maidstone, Kent. He was among at least six people who died as gales gusting up to 100 miles an hour tore across southern Britain yesterday, wreaking havoc and destruction.

In parts of Scotland, the Pennines and Welsh mountains, snow blocked roads, cut off villages and brought a spate of accidents. Thick fog between Greater Manchester and West Yorkshire caused a pile-up of 40 vehicles on the M62. Three vehicles burst into flames and eight people were injured.

The south-westerly gales were caused by a "cyclonic depression" sweeping across England, bringing cold air into contact with the warmer air in the south and west, a spokesman at the London Weather Centre said.

"These are equinoctial gales, very typical for this time of the year but worse than normal", he said. They were expected to die down and give way to colder weather with rain or snow showers by today, but a cycle of gales followed by cold weather could start again on Wednesday.

The Weather Centre was not able to forecast the weather for Easter but it was likely to be unsettled, the spokesman said.

Steven Laws, aged 18, was trapped for half an hour after a large sycamore was "literally blown out of the ground", a fireman said, and through the ceiling of his temporary classroom at Oakwood Park Grammar School, Maidstone, during an English lesson. He died later in hospital.

Another boy was taken to hospital but was said to be not seriously injured. Nine students and their teacher were in the classroom at the time.

A crane operator, aged 55, was crushed to death when his crane was blown over at Tipton, West Midlands. At Kings Lynn, Norfolk, a woman aged 55 was blown into the River Ouse. She was rescued by police but was dead on arrival at hospital.

In Cambridgeshire, an elderly man died after being hit by a wooden panel torn from a shed.

In Northampton, a van driver was killed as he swerved to avoid a falling tree and crashed into an oncoming vehicle. Another driver died as three heavy vehicles collided in snow at Barkston Ash, North Yorkshire.

The Severn Bridge was closed to traffic for the first time since 1974.

Continued on page 2, col 3

Thatcher denies share deal

By Philip Webster, Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister last night repudiated reports that she had dealt in shares in her own name while Prime Minister.

In a statement from Downing Street replying to weekend reports that she had improperly dealt in shares Mrs Thatcher said that last year she had made arrangements for all her holdings of shares to be transferred to a firm of investment managers with full powers to buy and sell shares without reference to her.

She said that in 1971 (when she was Secretary of State for Education and Science) she had bought a small shareholding in the Australian company, Broken Hill Proprietary, which was the firm mentioned.

She said it was registered in her own name. But between 1971 and 1986 the holding was increased to its current level through a series of rights issues, dividend issues and share splits. In other words the holding had been increased to its current level through a natural accrual rather than dealing.

She said that from when she transferred her affairs to the investment firm 1303 Broken Hill shares were transferred to the nominees of the investment managers and the remaining 24 shares were in the course of being transferred to them. The statement added: "All the shares are still held on her behalf; none have been sold."

The statement may still leave Mrs Thatcher open to attack from the opposition because of the admission that she bought the shareholding when she was a cabinet minister.

But Downing Street sources have said that she has meticulously observed the rules

Oil heads for \$10 with Opec in disarray

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

World oil prices are likely to resume their downward spiral after the crisis meeting of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries ended in disarray in Geneva yesterday.

Prices could tumble towards \$10 a barrel by the end of the week, according to oil traders who have been at the talks for the past week.

Trading in North Sea crude oil reacted sharply to the end of the talks with prices for delivery next month dropping 90 cents from Friday's \$13.90 and by more than a dollar to \$11.75 for delivery in June.

The impact of the meeting was felt on the Stock Exchange where share prices fell back sharply on dashed hopes of another early cut in base rates.

The Financial Times 30-share index fell by 17.6 points to 1394.6. The wider FTSE 100-share index dropped by 24.4 points to 1663.9.

The pound fell by 1.38 cents to \$1.4897, but gained 2½ pence to DM3.40. The sterling index ended unchanged at 75.9.

The effects of Opec's failure to agree were felt in the domestic money markets. Rates firmed and are now in line with base rates, currently 11.5 per cent.

On Friday, the Bank of England had to step in to prevent rates from falling too quickly. Now, another base rate cut is unlikely until well into next month. Government stocks were hit by market disappointment over base rate prospects. Long-dated stocks fell by about 1½.

Opec will resume its meeting on April 15, again probably in Geneva, though Kuwait is attempting to persuade the

Tougher line on smoking

By Nicholas Timmins

Cigarette advertising is to be banned in cinemas and in magazines with young readers under a new agreement with the tobacco industry announced by Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, yesterday.

Stronger health warnings on cigarette packs and a £1 million a year campaign aimed at stopping the sale of cigarettes to children were also announced.

The agreement, which will run for three and a half years, also includes a freeze on poster advertising spending and a new joint committee between the industry and the health departments to uphold the agreement.

The British Medical Association, however, said the new agreement did little more than "attempt to paper over the cracks in the previously highly unsatisfactory agreement".

Action on Smoking and Health said the agreement was "clearly a step in the right direction".

The new health warnings—still on the side of the packs rather than in a more prominent position—for the first time warn of specific diseases.

Mr Fowler said the old warning "Smoking can seriously damage your health" had become too familiar and lost its impact.

The measures intended to protect the young were particularly important, he said.

Advertising near schools will be banned, brand names and logos will be banned on "give aways" for children at events such as roadshows and airshows.

At one point during the discussions, it was revealed yesterday, a proposal by Dr Subroto, the Indonesian oil minister and a former Opec president, came close to acceptance. He suggested that countries such as Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, which could best afford a production cut, should shoulder the lion's share of output restrictions.

Kenneth Fleet, page 17

Libyans fire, but miss US planes

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

Libyan forces fired at least two Soviet-made anti-aircraft missiles at US war planes yesterday when they flew over Colonel Gaddafi's "line of death" across the Gulf of Sirte, according to Pentagon sources. The missiles apparently missed by a wide margin.

Neither the Pentagon nor the State Department would officially confirm the attack. It appears that there was no immediate retaliation by the American planes or the Sixth Fleet, which began manoeuvres off the Libyan coast on Saturday night in a show of resolve against Libya's territorial claim over the entire gulf.

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Report on pull-out by GM

Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, will report to the Commons today on the breakdown of British Leyland privatization talks with General Motors.

Mrs Thatcher met ministers yesterday to hear a report from Mr Channon, and although officials sources were not ruling out a return of GM to the negotiating table, few MPs expected that to happen.

Mr John Taylor, Conservative MP for Solihull, who opposed the possibility of GM being allowed to buy a 49 per cent stake in Land Rover, described the GM offer as "a bid too far". He hoped the Government and British Leyland would open serious talks with Land Rover's management buy-out consortium.

Leading article, page 13

Hailsham agrees to pay talks with the Bar

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Lord Chancellor has agreed to pay negotiations with the Bar. He will ask the Cabinet to approve a timetable for the talks which look set to end the High Court dispute over criminal legal aid fees.

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone's decision, announced in the High Court yesterday, comes after clear hints at the end of last week from the Lord Chief Justice, who is hearing the case, that the Lord Chancellor was in the wrong.

In an apparent invitation to the lawyers on both sides to settle the dispute Lord Lane adjourned the proceedings early on Friday, saying he would not like to have to rule against Lord Hailsham and that some "hard thinking" was needed.

Yesterday counsel for the Lord Chancellor, Mr Nicholas Phillips, QC, said talks had now taken place and a timetable for negotiation had been put forward.

"The Lord Chancellor would like to agree, but will need to consult colleagues because the timetable could

have implications for public expenditure."

The High Court proceedings were adjourned until Wednesday by which time it is hoped the decision to embark on talks will have been put to the Cabinet.

The Bar wants to negotiate over its pay claim of 30 to 40 per cent, submitted to the Government last September on the basis of an independent survey.

It is claiming Lord Hailsham acted unlawfully in that he failed to negotiate before announcing to increase fees for

criminal legal aid work by only 5 per cent; and that in setting the 5 per cent limit he was in breach of his statutory duty to provide "fair and reasonable" rates of pay.

In the High Court proceedings last week it was disclosed that Lord Hailsham made up his mind on the 5 per cent increase in December, although officials continued to promise talks and only told the Bar of his decision in February.

Lord Lane said he was "troubled" by this and found it

"very difficult to understand" why negotiations had stopped in December.

The action, brought on behalf of the 5,200 barristers of England and Wales in the name of the Bar chairman, Mr Robert Alexander, QC, was launched at that special meeting in February.

The Lord Chancellor also faces High Court proceedings brought by the Law Society of England and Wales. The action, which makes the same claims as that by the Bar, is due to be heard after Easter.

Tomorrow Mothers of the future



Today's daughters are tomorrow's mothers—but how many will learn from the example of their own families? Bel Mooney reports

Whitehall on the fence

Are there shocks in store for the Civil Service?

Portfolio

There is \$4,000 to be won in today's Times Portfolio competition because there was no winner yesterday. Portfolio list, page 28, how to play, information service, page 16.

This week the weekly prize of £20,000 will be awarded on Friday, rather than Saturday. This is because the Stock Exchange will be closed on Friday and there will be no daily prize for Saturday.

Spy claim

An Australian court has given Britain three weeks to detail objections to publication of a book by Mr Peter Wright, the former MI5 man who accused Sir Roger Hollis of being a KGB spy. Page 7

Killer drink

Drink kills 25,000 people a year and the British drink twice as much as 20 years ago, according to a report which calls for new curbs. Page 5

Care overhaul

The NSPCC, criticized in a report on the death of Heidi Koseda, has acted to improve child care services. Page 3

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Rules for disciplining doctors assailed as costly and unworkable

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Health ministers are being pressed to change the procedure for disciplining doctors in the wake of the Wendy Savage inquiry. Health authorities are warning the Department of Health and Social Security that the procedure has become "unworkable".

It is unfair both to health authorities, who face huge delays and costs in trying to get rid of incompetent doctors, and to doctors themselves. Those who are cleared by the end of the procedure may have been suspended for four years or more at a cost to the National Health Service of £250,000.

Even when a doctor is cleared, health authorities say, so much time may have elapsed and so much bad blood may have been generated that it is difficult or impossible for the doctor to go back to work.

A confidential memorandum from Trent Regional Health Authority to the chairman, managers and regional medical officers of the other 13 NHS regions, says the procedure is "out of date, complicated, slow and very costly". It has become "progressively unworkable".

The procedure, which is used to deal with cases of

serious professional misconduct or incompetence, is "cumbersome and bureaucratic" and "positively detrimental" for both health authorities and doctors.

District medical officers in other regions are now saying privately they will not use the procedure because of the time it takes, the cost and the uncertainty about the outcome.

The Trent memorandum says that the need to take the huge costs into account inhibits health authorities from taking disciplinary action over professional incompetence or misconduct. But the "interests of the service and the care given to patients" require that should not be so.

Concern has been brought to a head by the publicity over the case of Mrs Wendy Savage, the consultant obstetrician suspended from the London Hospital for almost a year, where the cost to the health authority is estimated to be approaching £100,000, with Mrs Savage's costs in the same region.

If she is cleared her suspension will have lasted 15 months.

But Trent's memorandum says it has eight serious disciplinary cases pending at any

one time, employing two solicitors virtually full time.

In one case a consultant has been suspended for four years at a cost of more than £200,000 as the disciplinary procedure and appeals have been gone through.

In another, involving fraud, costs are running at more than £100,000 with the formal inquiry yet to take place two years after the doctor was suspended.

If the inquiry goes ahead "the resource and time implications will be hard to accept".

In North East Thames, a consultant paediatrician has been suspended for three years, with threat of an inquiry still to be held, and a haematologist has been suspended for over more than four years.

Trent says the burden of proof of the procedure demands is "very high" and suffers from "excessive legalism" yet witnesses cannot be compelled to attend and the whole procedure, set up in 1961, is "out of step with modern employment law".

A more simple and effective procedure is needed, the Trent document says, in the interests of doctors, patients and health authorities.

MPs press for assault meeting

By Stephen Goodwin, Political Staff

Manchester city councillors and MPs are seeking an urgent meeting with the Home Secretary to press for a speedy conclusion to an inquiry into claims by two students that they have been intimidated and assaulted by plainclothes police officers.

One of the students, Steven Shaw, aged 24, spoke yesterday of nightmares in which he sees the faces of two officers he says beat him up in a Manchester street last February.

Harassment alleged by the two includes threats, surveillance, assault and burglary spread over a year. Both were involved in the demonstration against the visit of Mr Leon Brittan, then Home Secretary, to Manchester University.

The Police Complaints Authority, helped by officers from Avon and Somerset police, is investigating.

In October 1985 an independent inquiry panel set up by the council concluded there had been a misuse of a police riot squad.

The second student involved, Sarah Hollis, aged 22, has recently fallen silent, reportedly after an offer made over the telephone.

Angel had many injuries

John Mikkleson, the Hell's Angel who died in police custody after inhaling his vomit, had a large number of injuries to different parts of his body, a pathologist said at an inquest into his death yesterday.

Dr Stephen Cordner told the inquest in Hammersmith that he had cuts and bruises to his face, neck, chest, pelvis, arms, back and buttocks.

Mr Mikkleson, aged 34, of Salters Road, North Kensington, west London, died after he was arrested by police questioning several men about possession of a car in Feltham, west London.

Dr Cordner said that Mr Mikkleson's death was "an extremely complicated case". He was intoxicated with alcohol, and had been involved in a fight.

Dr Cordner said the injuries themselves did not indicate excessive force.

The inquest continues today.

Spanish pact

The new extradition treaty between Britain and Spain was ratified yesterday, allowing Britain to seek the extradition of fugitives who enter or re-enter Spain from July 1.

Maxwell printers return

By Ronald Faux, *Printers on the Daily Record and Sunday Mail*

Printers on the Glasgow agreed yesterday to return to work according to the deal reached in London between Sogat '82 and the management of Mirror Group Newspapers in London, but refused to cross picket lines manned by the 220 dismissed members of the National Union of Journalists of the two papers.

The journalists were dismissed by Mr Robert Maxwell the publisher, after striking in protest at redundancy plans. Neither newspaper has appeared for two weeks.

The decision by the printers came last night as a relief to the journalists who feared that a return to work by Sogat members would isolate them and allow Mr Maxwell to produce the *Daily Record*, which has the biggest newspaper circulation in Scotland, by facsimile from Manchester.

Earlier the contempt action against Sogat '82 in the High Court in London was adjourned to await the decision of the meeting in Glasgow of 700 printworkers. Mr Christopher Parr, QC, for Mirror Group Newspapers, told Mr Justice Potter that the key aspect of the deal reached over the weekend between the group and the unions was the declaration by Sogat '82 that it was no part of its function to influence the editorial conduct of the paper.

In return Mr Maxwell had withdrawn dismissal notices and the union had agreed to bear the legal costs of bringing the contempt action.

Last night management was considering its next move.

Mr Maxwell has invited any journalists who wish to return to work to apply for their jobs but the NUJ has rejected the offer.

Unions criticize Wapping police

Print union leaders met Labour MPs yesterday to complain about police tactics outside News International's Wapping plant in east London yesterday.

Among 50 people arrested outside the plant last Saturday night was Mr Tony Dubbins, the general secretary of the National Graphical Association, who has formally complained to the police about their behaviour at Wapping. He has been charged with obstructing the highway.

Scotland Yard said yesterday that all official complaints would be investigated.

32 print union members in an attack on a van delivering The Sun and The Times in south-east London were each fined £500 yesterday at Camberwell magistrates' court.

Each was ordered to pay £200 compensation for damage caused, and one was fined a further £120 and disqualified for a year for driving with excess alcohol.



Mr Matthew Carrington, Conservative candidate in the Fulham by-election, and Mr Jeffrey Archer, vice-chairman of the party, talking to Mr Dinesh Patel, a local shopkeeper, and his daughter, Bina. Mr Patel says he will vote Tory.

Fulham by-election

Vision of SDP bandwagon

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

The first glimpse of the SDP bandwagon getting under way in the Fulham by-election emerged yesterday as the party willingly admitted it is stuck in third place behind Labour and the Conservatives.

SDP officials produced their first canvassing returns for the south-west London constituency which confirmed the latest opinion poll predictions, showing Labour comfortably in the lead, Conservatives second, and Mr Roger Liddle, the SDP candidate, trailing last.

The SDP figures, based on talking to 18 per cent of the electorate, disclose that 16.5 per cent will definitely vote SDP, 21 per cent will certainly

Preparing for a life on the run

From Richard Ford, Belfast

The make-up artists and hairdressers who have been at work providing a new disguise for the afflu features of Provisional IRA terrorist suspect, Evelyn Glenholmes, are likely to be in one of any number of "safe" houses in the South provided by Provisional sympathizers. It is likely that efforts will be made to provide Miss Glenholmes with a new identity and passport enabling her to leave the Republic if necessary.

However, she has remained in the Republic since it became known in November, 1984, that warrants for her extradition had been issued under her arrest earlier this month.

Born Mary Elizabeth Evelyn Glenholmes, she now uses the Irish name, the Giblin. Since being released from custody in the North in 1983 she has been living in the South.

Miss Glenholmes was charged with being a member of the women's branch of the Provisional IRA in 1983. But she was released and the charges dropped when an informer retracted his evidence.

After being tipped off in November, 1984, that the British were seeking her extradition she disappeared but was eventually traced to a housing estate in Tallaght, south Dublin, where she was arrested this month.

Director ready to face controversy

By Peter Evans

Sir Thomas Hetherington QC, Director of Public Prosecutions, is used to controversy. The latest storm, over the legal blunder which freed Evelyn Glenholmes, is far from the first, though it is possibly the most serious.

Only in November, Mr Brian Sedgemore, the Labour MP for Hackney South and Shoreditch, told Sir Michael Havers QC, the Attorney General, there was a desperate need for the DPP to put his house in order over an alleged fraud case.

"If he will not or cannot do that then you should replace him," the power to sack a DPP lies with the Attorney General, but if it ever came to removal from Crown service as well, that would have to be done by the head of the Civil Service.

Sir Thomas's style makes him a natural target. He introduced, after his appointment in 1977, open government in what had been a secretive department.

Interviews disclosed he worked behind bullet-proof glass. A red scramble telephone was at hand. It was reported.

Sir Thomas's readiness to explain patiently, reasonably, directly, though sometimes forcefully, some of his more publicized decisions, has brought him into the news.

When he gave evidence in public to the Commons Select Committee on Home Affairs, it represented a shift of opinion in the Government. Previously it had maintained that law officers should be outside the committee's remit.

Then and throughout his stay in office he has stuck to two main principles on which he bases the decision to prosecute. "We have to be satisfied that there is a reasonable prospect of a conviction."

Sir Thomas, aged 59, has not only argued about issues arising in the day to day running of his job, which pays £60,000 a year, but has joined in debate about subjects which could affect his office.

Fraud trials are an example. In an interview with *The Times* Sir Thomas said complicated fraud cases before juries could be streamlined by creating a group of specialist judges.



Sir Thomas Hetherington, who is used to trouble

Workers rush for shipyard shares

By Peter Davenport

However, Cammell Laird suggested yesterday that more than 70 per cent of the 1,350 workers had applied for shares.

The success of the share sales marks a turnaround in the fortunes of Cammell Laird, which in 1984 had to shed more than 2,000 workers and had an empty order book.

The yard is at present building a frigate, HMS Campbelltown, and has won an order from the Ministry of Defence for three conventional submarines which will secure the future of the yard into the 1990s and provide up to 500 new jobs.

Swan Hunter, the newly privatized shipbuilding company, "faces destruction" if a £240 million Ministry of Defence contract is placed with the state-owned Harland and Wolff yard, MPs were told yesterday.

The company sent letters to 40 MPs with defence interests, stating that they are "fighting for our lives" in an attempt to stop the order for two auxiliary oil replenishment ships (AORs) being placed with Harland and Wolff.

Drop in number of university graduates

The number of graduates who have gained first degrees from British universities has fallen for the first time since the early 1960s, according to figures published yesterday by the University Grants Committee.

At the same time the 30 polytechnics are taking more and more students. Figures compiled by the Committee of Directors of Polytechnics show a 20 per cent rise in the number of fulltime and sandwich students in 1985-86 compared with 1981-82.

The drop in university numbers marks the end of 20 years' continuous expansion in the university system, reflecting the reduction in student numbers which was forced upon the universities in 1981 by government cuts.

The figures show that 75,967 university students successfully completed undergraduate courses and 72,019 were awarded first degrees (95 per cent), a 1.5 per cent drop on the previous year.

There was a sharp rise in the number of part-time university undergraduates, 12 per cent higher than in 1983-84, and 33 per cent higher than in 1975-80. Most part-time students are women. The proportion of fulltime women undergraduates has also increased slightly, to 42 per cent.

There was an increase of 3 per cent in the number of postgraduate students, and the proportion of overseas students on postgraduate courses increased by more than 5 per cent. They now represent more than one third of the postgraduate population.

Numbers of university staff, paid from general funds, fell by about 500 to 29,600. That contrasts with an increase of about 1,000 in the numbers of academic staff who were funded from sources outside the university system.

The polytechnic figures, compiled by the directors' committee from Department of Education and Science statistics, show that student numbers on fulltime and sandwich courses rose to 157,877 this year from 151,901 in 1981-82.

Shorts win stake in airliner project

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Short Brothers, the Belfast-based aerospace company, is to take a big stake in the next generation of short-haul airliner being developed by Boeing of the United States, a move that could create more than 1,000 jobs in Northern Ireland.

The agreement, announced yesterday, could give state-owned Shorts up to 5 per cent of the work on the aircraft, which will probably be called the 737.

It is due to be launched in 1992 as a direct competitor to the A320, the 150-seat jet being produced by the European consortium of Airbus Industrie in which the United Kingdom has a 28 per cent share.

A memorandum of understanding signed in London by Boeing and Shorts could give the Belfast company a considerable slice of the work on the aircraft.

Shorts already makes rudiments for the Boeing 737, wing flap assemblies for the 757 and landing gear doors for the 747, and with the additional work, the total value of Boeing contracts in Belfast could rise to £380 million by the end of the century.

Shorts' chairman, Sir Philip Foreman, said the deal with Boeing gave his company "a ticket into the 21st century". It was potentially the most significant it had struck with Boeing.

A British Aerospace has won a £10 million order from the Ministry of Defence for an advanced version of the Rapier anti-aircraft missile system. Future Rapier units will be fitted with infra-red trackers for night use and improvements have been made in the system's ability to avoid jamming by enemy signals.

Sea pilots face huge job cuts

By Michael Bailey

A massive cut in Britain's corps of sea pilots is expected from next year after government legislation announced in the Commons yesterday by Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport.

Up to a third of the 1,400 pilots are expected to go in the next year, with big economies for the ports and shipping industries.

Trinity House, responsible up until now for about a third of Britain's pilotage services, will be cut down to an agency for those ports that wish to use it.

Earning £10,000 to £40,000 a year, and enjoying full job protection, although self-employed, the pilots have posed a tricky problem for the Government. Arguments have raged for years on how to trim the service to match a 25 per cent cut in shipping through Britain's ports during the past decade.

Pressure on the Government to finance redundancies has been firmly resisted by Mr Ridley. Instead early retirement with pensions up to £10,000 to £20,000 a year at 55 will be financed by a lump sum payment of up to £60,000 will be funded by the port authorities, which will take over responsibility for pilotage in the future.

Two Britons share chess contest lead

British players are doing well in the GLC Chess Challenge at the Great Eastern Hotel (Harry Golombek writes).

After 10 rounds, Glenn Flear, the Leicester international master who has won his second round 8 against Speelman, leads with Murray Chandler, another British grandmaster, at 7 points.

Next is Nigel Short, aged 20, who is a candidate for the next World Championship cycle.

Short beat Jonathan Mestel, the Cambridge mathematician, in their round 10 game, and came out a half point behind the leaders with 6½. Flear requires only half a point out of his remaining three games to acquire his first grandmaster norm.

Standings after Round 10: Chandler 7, Flear 7, Short 6½, Speelman 6, Mestel 6, Golombek 5½, Nunn 5½, Portman 5½, Pritchard 5, Woodward 4½, Duggan 4½, Mould 2½.

QC calls for fraud trials without jury

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, the eminent QC, last night broke ranks with the rest of his profession and came down in favour of abolishing juries in complex fraud trials as recommended in the Roskill report on fraud.

He said that jury trial was not sacrosanct and must be "subjected to the process of reasoned debate".

Where cases have "political" overtones, there was a case "that the legal institution be designed to stand between the individual and the state," he told Alliance lawyers in London.

In a second controversial statement, Mr Blom-Cooper said there was a case to consider a national police force and called for the Alliance to commit itself to setting up a royal commission on the police within a year of an election.

That produces a "knee jerk" response in liberal-minded people.

Correction

Contrary to a reference in *The Times* of March 10, the City of London Corporation is an independently-elected authority free of any political parties.

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Heidi Koseda inquiry

Child's death leads to improvements in NSPCC's care services

By Gavin Bell

The case of a three-year-old child who was starved to death in her council house has prompted a big overhaul of child care services, the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children said yesterday.

Dr Alan Gilmour, the director of the NSPCC, outlined the improvements at a press conference after an independent inquiry sharply criticised the society and held it partly responsible for the child's death.

The inquiry was ordered after police discovered the emaciated body of Heidi Koseda in a squalid flat in Hillingdon, west London, on January 23 last year. She had been dead for several weeks, and there was evidence that she had eaten tissue paper to try to survive.

Nicholas Price, aged 26, who had been living with Heidi's mother, was later jailed for life for her murder. Her mother, Mrs Rosemary Koseda, aged 28, was committed to a mental hospital after pleading guilty to manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility.

The inquiry found that a neighbour had alerted the NSPCC about possible ill-treatment of Heidi the previous September. But the officer concerned did not properly investigate the case and then lied about visiting the child. He finally recommended that no further action be taken.

"We are in no doubt that the September-October period, when Heidi was still alive, was critical for her and that had the NSPCC's officers responded as required it is likely that her situation would have become known and her

life saved", the report said. The inquiry, led by Dr Margaret Yelloly, of Goldsmiths College, London, also found that staff supervision within the society was inadequate to detect the series of errors and deceptions.

"The provision of service by the society... fell far below the standard the society itself expects in a number of respects, over and above the errors of the particular investigating officer in this case", it said.

In a list of 35 recommendations to prevent a recurrence of the tragedy, the report welcomed NSPCC moves to improve the supervision and management of future cases.

But it asked the society to have urgent talks with local

We accept responsibility", he said.

Dr Gilmour said the society had created 29 child protection teams, incorporating inspectors, special units and day centres, and plan to have 60 in operation by the end of 1988.

It was also establishing an internal audit system to be headed by a senior executive reporting to the director. Two posts had been created to review administration and monitor fieldwork services, and a third would be established to deal exclusively with London.

Additional resources had been allocated to staff training, and all staff had been firmly reminded to follow the society's directives and to report immediately to their managers any circumstances in which they could not do so. Discussions had already begun with Hillingdon local authority about setting up a child protection team.

The various improvements, including increasing the number of social workers in the field, involved a 26 per cent rise in spending this year, he said.

Dr Gilmour added that the officer cited by the report had been dismissed for professional misconduct, and another officer had resigned after disciplinary action against him.

In a recent commentary in the NSPCC newspaper, the *Child's Guardian*, Dr Gilmour expressed the need for close cooperation with other child care services.

The inquiry largely exonerated the other services involved in the affair, but pointed to apparent deficiencies in the law governing such cases.



Heidi Koseda, who may have eaten paper tissue trying to survive

authorities in Hillingdon to better coordinate their child care services.

Dr Gilmour said the NSPCC welcomed the report, accepted its findings and had already initiated action on all its recommendations.

"Without the failure on our part, Heidi might still be alive.

Father 'shook son to death'

A boy aged four months began screaming during a bath and was shaken to death by his father, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

He stopped breathing and was taken to hospital by ambulance but doctors lost a fight for the child's life.

Paul Fitzpatrick, aged 19, unemployed, of Hollydale Road, Peckham, south-east London, pleaded guilty to the manslaughter of his son, Dean Hussein, on March 24 last year.

Mr Timothy Cassel, for the prosecution, said the baby was taken to hospital after a shaking incident and was sent home.

Two days later the child suffered the fatal injuries and

died from brain haemorrhage.

Mr Fitzpatrick told police that the boy's mother, Sarah, aged 19, was bathing him but he kept falling asleep.

He allegedly said: "I had him on my knee and was bouncing him up and down, but he still kept falling asleep. Then he started screaming, I kept shaking him and his eyes went funny, I did not mean to harm him."

The trial continues today.

A father whose son's skull was shattered "like an eggshell" was sentenced to two years' imprisonment yesterday.

Adrian Cooke, aged 24, was told by Judge Charles Mantell at Bodmin Crown Court: "It is

a mercy that more harm was not done."

The judge added: "I am sorry for you, but the maximum sentence is two years and I take the view that the circumstances of this case are serious enough for the imposition of that sentence."

Cooke, unemployed, and his wife Dawn, aged 19, of St Keverne, Cornwall, had both denied wilfully ill-treating their son, Daniel, who had six fractures to his arms, legs, ribs and skull in the first six months of his life.

Dawn Cooke was also found guilty and she collapsed sobbing in the dock when the verdict was announced.

Sentence on her was postponed for social inquiry reports.



Crowds milling round Eros whose unveiling in London's Piccadilly Circus was brought forward by howling winds. Mr Ken Livingstone, the Greater London Council leader had planned to unveil it after a £200,000 restoration, but workmen beat him to it on safety grounds and the wraps came off 45 minutes before the official ceremony to reveal Eros's new bow and his repaired ankle and knee. The statue now stands on a new pedestrian piazza (Photograph: Dod Miller)

Raiders bind and rob pools millionaire

By Peter Davenport

Two masked raiders bound and gagged Sir John Moores, the multi-millionaire founder of the Littlewoods pools and mail order empire, in his home.

Two men, armed with iron bars, broke into Sir John's £250,000 home, in Freshfields, Formby, Merseyside, on Sunday evening. They smashed windows at the rear of the house and surprised Sir John's housekeeper, Mrs Pat Lewis, and her husband, Alf.

The men failed to open a safe and escaped with cash from Mr Lewis's wallet and some contents of the house. Sir John, aged 90, widower, was resting at home yesterday.

Loan sharks warning on benefit claimants

By Robin Young

Government proposals to offer interest-free loans to families living on supplementary benefit could drive them into the hands of loan sharks, the Family Policy Studies Centre said yesterday.

The introduction of loans is one aspect of the Government's proposals for a social fund contained in the Social Security Bill. The loans would replace many of the grants received by supplementary benefit claimants.

The centre's report says that half the supplementary benefit families with children are in debt and unlikely to be able to service an additional loan.

Existing benefit levels are so low that many families with children cannot afford clothes.

Pack to help computer registration

The Data Protection Registrar is concerned about the few companies which have registered their computer systems as the law demands.

It is seeking the help of lawyers and accountants in public practice.

Through their professional associations, they will receive a special instruction pack to help them advise their clients of the legal penalties they risk paying if they do not register.

From May 10 all companies/operators which have personal information on computer files must register. Failure to do so is a criminal offence under the new Data Protection Act.

The registrar will distribute 26,000 new packs by the end of the month.

Research plea on hereditary handicap

By Thomson Prentice

Research into early-stage human embryos should be legalized to help prevent hereditary handicap, according to a discussion paper published today.

A law banning such research would be a "disaster" to many thousands of couples at risk of giving birth to a handicapped child and to those having difficulty in conceiving.

The research was "morally and ethically just", the authors, Mr Peter Thurnham, MP, and his wife, Sarah, said.

More than 14,000 infants in England and Wales were voluntarily registered as congenitally malformed within one week of birth in 1984, and about half of the annual 250,000 miscarriages before three months of pregnancy were due to chromosomal abnormalities in the embryo, they said.

Research into embryos less than 14 days old, known as pre-embryos, before they are implanted in the mother's womb could be the best hope for couples known to be at risk of passing on an inherited disorder.

The perfection of such diagnostic techniques could be achieved within three years, according to the most optimistic forecasts by doctors.

Mr Thurnham, Conservative MP for Bolton North-East, and his wife have four children of their own and have adopted a multiple handicapped boy. They are founder members of Progress, a campaigning group which supports controlled research into human reproduction, infertility and congenital handicap.

Their pamphlet, *When Nature Fails - Why Handicap?*, has been published by the Conservative Political Centre in Smith Square, London, but is not a party policy document. It recommends that pre-14 day embryos should be given special legal status, and that any research should be strictly regulated by licence.

It urges the Government to bring in legislation along the lines set out in the Warnock report.

'Satanist asked me for girls'

A prostitute yesterday said Derry Mainwaring Knight, the self-styled satanist, asked her to provide schoolgirls to have sexual relations with him.

Lorraine Haynes told Maidstone Crown Court that she refused, but found seven prostitutes and other girls for Mr Knight.

He paid her more than £4,000, she said. Miss Haynes, of Shoeburyness, Essex, was giving evidence at the start of the sixth week of the trial.

She admitted she worked as a prostitute in Southend.

Mr Knight had made no mention of religion or anything to do with witchcraft, black magic or satanism during their relationship, she said.

Mr Knight, aged 46, an unemployed painter and decorator, of Dormans Land, Surrey, denies 19 charges of obtaining more than £200,000 by deception from Christians claiming he needed the money to buy satanic regalia to free himself from the control of the devil.

Det Sgt Brian Smeed told the court that Mr Knight told him he had received psychiatric treatment while in the Army, when he interviewed him after his arrest.

The trial continues today.

Rail fears over coal ambushes

From Tim Jones

Gangs who have ambushed coal trains in the South Wales valleys were warned yesterday that their tactics could lead to a catastrophe.

Two trains, each carrying more than £30,000 of coal, have been forced to stop by professional thieves blocking the line.

The thieves then went to the wagons and dumped the coal beside the track so that accomplices could take it away in lorries.

More than £5,000 of coal was stolen in the two raids and police believe it is being offered to householders cheaply.

The gang got away with about 15 tons of coal, valued at £160 a ton on each raid. British Transport police do not know how long they took to load the coal into their vans.

Chief Insp Stephen Chapman, divisional commander of the British Transport Police, said: "This is an organized, dangerous and criminal operation."

Railway officials are worried that the trains, which weigh up to 750 tons, could career off the line and cause widespread damage or death.

'Aids risk' in surgery rubbish

Children were exposed to a "clinical cocktail of risk" including hepatitis and Aids from waste materials strewn outside a Bradford doctors' surgery, city magistrates were told yesterday.

A girl aged five had gone home crying after pricking her finger on a hypodermic needle and a boy aged three had found a tablet he thought was a sweet, days before a complaint was made to the local Department of Environmental Health. Mr Michael Wilcock, for the prosecution and on behalf of the Health and Safety Executive, said.

Two Bradford doctors were fined £500 each and ordered to pay £49 costs after admitting failing to ensure the safety of the public from waste material at their surgery in Oak Lane, Bradford.

They were Naeemullah Mir, of Malvera Grove, and Syed Muhammad Intiaz, of Box Tree Close, Bradford.

Mr Bob Stewart, the doctors' solicitor, said that they had left the waste in plastic bags outside their premises and it was not their fault that it was later strewn about.

'Aids' woman spat court is told

Mr Michael McConnachie, aged 30, a store detective, told Edinburgh Sheriff Court yesterday that a woman who claimed to have Aids spat in his face after he detained her for allegedly stealing a purse on February 27.

Rachel Townsley, aged 24, of Buchanan Street, Edinburgh, pleaded not guilty to "recklessly spitting on the store detective knowing she was a carrier of both the Aids and Hepatitis B viruses, and knowing that they were transferred by body fluids."

Mr McConnachie said that he went to Edinburgh's City Hospital for blood tests after the incident.

The hearing continues.

Pilfering of baggage at Heathrow 'a disgrace'

Pilfering of passengers' baggage at London's Heathrow Airport is becoming a national disgrace and judges who sentence thieves should have in mind a three-year prison term, Lord Justice Watkins said in the Court of Appeal yesterday.

But the judge allowed sentence appeals by 15 baggage handlers who had admitted either theft or attempted theft when they appeared before Aylesbury Crown Court on January 10.

Their sentences of between three and four years were cut to 30 months by the Court of Appeal. Lord Justice Watkins said that because they had all

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Glenholmes case

Employment

V and A flood

Lessons to be learnt from extradition failure

DUBLIN CASE

It was deeply disappointing that it had not so far proved possible to obtain the extradition from the Republic of Ireland of Miss Evelyn Glenholmes to face justice in a British court, Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, said in a statement to the Commons. He told MPs it was essential that they all learn the lessons for the future from this failure.

The case, in which a Dublin court ruled that warrants for the extradition of Miss Glenholmes were invalid because of a legal technicality, was described by Mr Gerald Kaufman, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs, as "a botched-up job" and he went on to call for a full inquiry. During the exchanges, Mr Hurd said there was no criticism to offer of the Irish Government or its agencies, including the Garda.

Mr Hurd said: Nine endorsed warrants for the return of Miss Glenholmes were first issued on October 31, 1984 and submitted to the Irish authorities for endorsement in accordance with the UK-Irish extradition legislation.

The offences covered by the warrants related to various terrorist offences committed between 1981 and 1982, including murder, attempted murder, firearms and explosives offences.

The original warrants were returned by the Irish authorities, who asked for some technical changes to be made to their wording. Fresh warrants were accordingly submitted on November 6, 1984, but by the third details of the extradition request had been disclosed in the press and Miss Glenholmes disappeared from view.

She was later arrested in Dublin on March 12, 1986, and the hearing was closed. The request opened in the District Court of Dublin last Wednesday on the basis of the warrants issued in November 1984.

Throughout last week's court hearing there was close cooperation between the Irish prosecuting authorities and officers from the Metropolitan Police and the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions.

On Saturday morning, having heard submissions from defence counsel that the extradition warrants were defective, the court discharged Miss Glenholmes.

I understand that the principal consideration which underlay the court's decision was that, whereas the standard wording printed on the warrants referred to information on oath as having been laid on the day the warrants were issued, which was November 6, 1984, the court considered that the relevant information was that laid when the original warrants had been issued on October 31, 1984.

I understand that the magistrate in London treated the further application on November 6 as having been made under oath adopting the information already laid but not reworded. So the information required for both sets of warrants was identical, but was not sworn again on November 6, which could have avoided the difficulty which later arose.

Even before Miss Glenholmes was released, the United Kingdom authorities had made arrangements for the issue of a fresh warrant covering one of the charges of murder. On the basis of this fresh warrant, the Garda obtained a new provisional warrant for the arrest of Miss Glenholmes. Once she was re-arrested, she was brought back to the District Court.

I understand that Miss Glenholmes was released, this time on the grounds that the court was not satisfied in spite of a telephone call from New Scotland Yard to the Garda that there was evidence that a fresh warrant had been issued in London that morning or that Miss Glenholmes had in effect been at liberty between her earlier release and her re-arrest.

Following the second release of Miss Glenholmes, the fresh warrant was sent to Dublin this (Monday) morning. Earlier today additional warrants were sent covering the eight remaining charges. In addition,

applications are this (Monday) afternoon being made for the issue of three further warrants in Oxfordshire and these will be forwarded to the authorities in Dublin as soon as they have been granted.

The Attorney General (Sir Michael Havers) and I have looked carefully at the information so far available to us. On the basis of that information it is clear that the extradition application failed because of a technical objection taken by the Dublin court.

The Attorney General and I regret that this technical objection was not foreseen in the fresh warrants obtained. We are considering urgently the need for a review of procedures and the handling of this sort of case. The Attorney General has instructed the Director of Public Prosecutions for England and Wales, and for Northern Ireland, to ensure personally that all outstanding warrants in respect of terrorist offences are checked at once for accuracy and sufficiency.

Under the auspices of the Inter-Governmental Conference work has already begun on a range of legal matters relating to extradition and the lessons of the past few days will be studied in that context.

For the sake of completeness, our inquiries have shown that in giving evidence to the court in Dublin an officer from the Metropolitan Police made an error in referring to the dates on which the warrants were issued.

I understand that he sought to correct this error, but that an opportunity for him to do so was not forthcoming. This does not, however, appear to have influenced the court in its decision to release Miss Glenholmes.

Mr Gerald Kaufman, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs, said that throughout this latest episode the Irish authorities had behaved with complete propriety and the Irish Government had fulfilled all its obligations.

It had been said that Miss Glenholmes was a Scottish Yard's most wanted terrorist suspect. In the light of the fact that the extradition cases involving Brendan Burns had failed through evidence relevant to warrants and that one of two warrants prepared for Miss Glenholmes was faulty, why

Mr Hurd said: We have no criticism of the co-operation we received in this matter from the Irish authorities. The difficulty on which this case failed was a technical difficulty.

It was concerned with whether when the second and revised warrant was sought, the identical information which was laid in the first episode of the warrant needed to be laid all over again under oath when seeking the revised warrant on the identical information from the same magistrate.

Whatever view one takes of it, that is a technical point. A great deal of trouble would have been avoided if that point had been foreseen and acted upon in the autumn of 1984.

The second set of warrants — the ones which were held to be defective on Saturday — were shown to and given to the Irish authorities and no objection or criticism was raised on them, though it would not have been raised if the expert Irish authorities had been asked the particular point on which the court in Dublin found the warrants to be defective on Saturday.

I am advised that it is perfectly normal for news of the issue of a fresh warrant to be conveyed either way by a telephone conversation between the police forces concerned. This has happened before. It is normal that it happened on this occasion, though it was not accepted by the court for the reasons I have given.

I agree that it is clearly essential that we find ways, through the Anglo-Irish co-operation, for ensuring that these difficulties do not recur.

Mr Ian Goss (Eastbourne, C) is there not a high duty resting on the DPP in all cases of extradition warrants to ensure that those warrants are validly and properly prepared? Is that duty not even greater when we are dealing with a matter of the gravest importance like terrorism on a massive scale of which the person concerned is a suspect?

Is he able to assure the House that the warrants that were taken to Dublin this morning have been seen and approved by the appropriate legal authorities in Dublin and that he has received an assurance that the new warrants sent over today are in order?

Mr Hurd: I agree with the first part of his point. It is the responsibility to make sure that warrants of this kind are in a form which arms them against all such difficulties and criticism, whether substantial or of a technical kind.

The new warrants and other warrants also mentioned were being sent to Dublin today are identical with those previously sent, with the crucial

exception that the information concerned has been retained before the magistrate concerned. Mr Enoch Powell (South Down, OUP): It occurred to the Government that the incompetence of those acting on its behalf in the matter of extradition might be exceeded by the incompetence of those who negotiated the Anglo-Irish agreement and advised the Government to enter into it?

Mr Hurd: I anticipated that he would raise that point. I do not think he has proved its relevance to the matter we are discussing.

Sir John Briggs-Davies (Epping Forest, C): It is not the case that the commendable and exceptional exertions of the Garda have no connection with that agreement either?

Mr Hurd: We have no criticism of the Irish Government or its agencies, including the Garda, in this respect.

The relevance of the agreement is that under one of its articles there are arrangements going on to review the lessons of this event will be relevant to those discussions.

Mr Merilyn Rees (Leeds, South and Morley, Lab): The purpose of statements in this House is not that we can question the minister responsible. The Home Secretary has no responsibility for the DPP. Who should be questioning the Attorney General? We will have to take the matter further.

Mr Hurd: This is a matter which concerned both the police and the prosecuting authorities in this country and therefore it is a matter for me to make a statement today. He will have ample time for asking questions of the Attorney General.

Mr Ivan Lawrence (Barnet, C): It would be unthinkable for the Government not to have granted a reasonable adjustment when a technicality of this kind arose, particularly one which emerged during cross examination and which, it must be observed, the DPP was not thought to be utterly unimportant.

Mr Hurd: I do not want to get drawn into that. Those concerned on our behalf did ask for an adjustment which the court did not grant.

Mr Alec Carr (Montgomery, L): This was a sloppy, incompetent professional operation. Is anybody going to take responsibility for this shambles in the way they ought to?

Mr Hurd: The DPP is responsible for the conduct of the office and for the expert to which he delegates to senior advisers and officials.

Mr Michael Mates (East Hampshire, C): Far from this being used as criticism of the Anglo-Irish agreement, it is a reason for those involved to try harder to make certain that co-operation begun three months ago is more effective so this sort of incident will not be repeated.

Mr Eileen Grogan (Bury St Edmunds, C): There is a painful contrast between the detailed and careful and often dangerous work of the police service of the Irish Republic and the Metropolitan Police and the RUC in undertaking to obtain the information, sometimes at the risk of their lives, and the slipshod and careless way in which that was dealt with within the DPP's office.

Mr Hurd: I was responsible in the DPP's office for establishing the sufficiency and accuracy of the warrants? What chance does he hold out of bringing this most wanted person to justice in the near future?

Mr Hurd: It would not be right for me to give the names of officials in that way. The structure of responsibility is through the DPP.

Mr Ian Goss (Eastbourne, C) unsuccessfully sought an emergency debate on the failure of the Director of Public Prosecutions to secure the extradition of Evelyn Glenholmes.

With the House about to rise for Easter, there was no opportunity, other than an emergency debate, to discuss the case.

The Speaker said the matter raised was not appropriate for discussion as a matter of emergency under the appropriate standing order.

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Free enterprise and free consumers will create jobs

THE BUDGET

The Government's success in reducing the rate of inflation had led some people to forget the dangers of fast-rising prices, Mr Norman Tebbit, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, said when opening the final day of debate in the Commons on the Budget proposals.

Memories should not be so short, he said. Not long ago Britain was said to be drinking at the Last Chance Saloon. Now some people wanted to dash back inside and call for another round. That was what those who wanted a little more inflation to create jobs were really advocating. It would lead to another inflationary binge.

Mr James Callaghan had said the national employment between 1956 and 1976 was one of high inflation followed by higher unemployment. Mr Edward Heath had said that unchecked inflation was a threat to everyone's standard of living.

Too many Chancellors of the Exchequer in the past had been forced into mismanagement by calls for instant solutions. They had turned economic cycles into roller coaster rides which left stomachs in the mouth.

But Mr Nigel Lawson had built upon his success. There was no safe level of inflation. It was the job of Government, through sound monetary and fiscal policies, to ensure there was consistent downward pressure on inflation and room for growth in the economy.

Jobs were not lost as soon as prices went up. Nor were they recreated quickly when prices were brought under control.

How would the Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr Roy Hattersley) have reacted to the loss of half the nation's prospective oil revenues if he had actually been in office? He would have overreacted. People usually did not want to be taxed.

Mr Hattersley would have had the extra stress of Labour's £24 billion public spending programme, plus his self-denial of the proceeds of privatisation.

Under this Government, private firms were for stable prices and low taxes, with people and companies able to take decisions in free markets with less intervention. It was free enterprise and free consumers, not Government, that created jobs. The process of creating jobs, (Labour leader).

The major obstacle to translating the productivity performance into new jobs was the tendency of unit labour costs

to outstrip those of Britain's competitors. Industry must control its unit labour costs.

We cannot (he said) exploit our improving productivity and output performance to create enough new jobs until earnings come back more closely into line with increases in productivity and our unit labour costs match those of our competitors.

That did not mean wage cuts. These in work could enjoy an improving level of earnings, as they had under this Government.

However, although those pay increases must be related to productivity and the competition, as taxes were cut and

The failure to invest in manufacturing industry was at the root of Britain's economic problem.

The one glimmer of light in the Budget speech was the recognition that industry should invest more but the problem was that the Chancellor thought that was a matter simply for industry and management.

It was a matter for the whole community because the whole community would be affected by the failure to invest.

Mr Tebbit's record in the matter of training was inconclusive, since he had dismantled 16 out of 23 training boards.

The percentage increase for research and development between 1979 and 1983 had been only 3 per cent in Britain while it was 18 per cent in the United States, 44 per cent in Germany, 10 per cent in France, 45 per cent in Italy and 32 per cent in Canada.

Britain was not only at the bottom of the league, but lamentably bottom of the league.

Unless that were changed, the country would lose the whole technological base for its industry, and not be able to develop new products and new processes. If the Government gave for research and development and for training what it was giving in the *inter vivos* gifts proposal, it would be a useful start.

Investment was not being made in new products because Britain was in the grip of monetary mismanagement.

Labour's proposal for a national investment bank would ensure that long-term investment was secured for British industry.

Three engines of recovery were needed: a proper investment policy for manufacturing industry, a proper research and development programme and a proper training policy.

We are (he said) slipping in all three.

The Budget was unfair, between north and south, between rich and poor. It was irrelevant to getting manufacturing industry and commerce back where they belonged. It was a matter of shame for this Government.

Mr Leon Brittan (Richmond, Yorks, C): Sir, I am joined to those who congratulated the Chancellor on combining the Budget with a continuing policy of sound finance and imagination and ingenuity in his proposals.

It was because the reductions in the burden of taxation were likely to have the desired long-term structural effect that the Chancellor was right to spend about £100 million on specific employment measures.

Mr Keith Best (Yvye Mon, C) and Mr Robert Harvey (Clyde South West, C) said the scheme would be warmly welcomed throughout rural Wales.

New deal for rural Wales

TOURISM

A new deal for rural Wales, including a grant scheme worth £1 million over two years, was announced by Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, during questions in the Commons.

Asked about priority accorded to the rural areas of Wales, he said: The Welsh Development Corporation will co-ordinate the plan confirms its commitment to the development of rural areas.

I have recently discussed with the agency and with Mid Wales

Development a strengthening of their rural development packages in cooperation with the Wales Tourist Board.

The grant scheme to be known as Drive — the Development of Rural Initiative, Venture and Enterprise — was designed, he said, to attract private sector investment in services, tourism-related, leisure and craft projects.

It will be administered by the Welsh Development Agency and Mid Wales Development which will consult and collaborate with the Welsh Tourist Board on projects involving tourism.

To stimulate local thinking

about development opportunities, and to provide momentum in carrying them through, experimental Rural Enterprise Groups are to be established.

Grants for converting redundant buildings will be expended and loans to small firms in rural areas streamlined. The new scheme, together with existing schemes in rural Wales, is to be marketed in a coordinated way under the title of Rural Enterprise.

Mr Keith Best (Yvye Mon, C) and Mr Robert Harvey (Clyde South West, C) said the scheme would be warmly welcomed throughout rural Wales.

Praise for safety record

NUCLEAR POWER

The important thing about nuclear power generation was not to get carried away by scare stories which had no basis in reality, Mr Mark Robinson, Under Secretary of State at the Welsh Office, said during questions in the Commons.

His remark came during exchanges on how regularly the Welsh Office monitors and audits active discharges from nuclear installations into the environment in the Principality, after Sir Raymond Gower (Vale of Glamorgan, C) said the nuclear power industry had a remarkable history of safety — better even than that of coal.

Mr Robinson's remarks came after Mr Roy Hughes, an Oppo-

sition spokesman on Welsh affairs, had said the general public were increasingly concerned about the hazards posed by nuclear installations.

There is a recognition in the Severnside area (he said) that it needs another nuclear power station there like a hole in the head. (Conservative protest). If the Central Electricity Generating Board attempt to walk in the face of that feeling, it will meet the strongest possible resistance.

Mr Robinson said he strongly refuted what Mr Hughes had said. Active monitoring of the Severn took place regularly and sites in Gwent were included. The general public could rest assured that it was done effectively and continuously.

Earlier, Mr Robinson had confirmed to Mr Dafydd Elis Thomas (Meirionnydd, Nant

Conwy, PC) that discharges of radioactive particulate matter from Trawsfynydd power station recently did not present a radiological hazard to the public. The incident was under investigation.

Mr Ian Grist (Cardiff Central, C) wanted the Welsh Office to give the public every reassurance about the safety of nuclear power generation, which was such a great advantage to the nation's competitors — and to the people of Scotland, 40 per cent of whose electricity was generated by nuclear power.

Mr Robinson said that the Secretary of State for Energy (Mr Peter Walker) had illustrated Mr Grist's points when he emphasized that the safety record of the nuclear power industry in the United Kingdom continued to be second to none.

Ministers to inspect damage at V and A

THE ARTS

The Government is considering whether there should be an inquiry into the flooding which damaged precious exhibits at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London at the weekend, Mr Richard Lacey, Minister for the Arts, said in the Commons during question time. He and another minister would leave to see the damage for themselves immediately after question time.

Mr Norman Redden (Croydon, C) asked the Minister to raise a question about the flooding of the arts following abolition of the GLC. He said that but for the irrelevant and foolish action of the Westminster City Council, the GLC would have been in a position to get the waters of the Victoria and Albert as it had in the case of the Cottages.

Mr Lacey said Westminster City Council should be strongly pressed for aggression to get £3 million for the arts in the Greater London area and added that it would be better if other councils like Islington did the same. He had a great deal of sympathy for the Victoria and Albert which had had a tragic accident over the weekend.

Labour MP: What about money? Mr Lacey: The staff have done a magnificent job. The Under Secretary of State for the Environment said I will go to the V and A immediately after question time to see the scale of damage and to discuss the situation with Sir Roy Strong. We are considering whether the House would view it as extremely odd if I did not go.

Mr Lacey: I shall be seeing the extent of the damage in the next hour or two and will be in actual what he says.

No debate on allegation about shares

Allegations that the Prime Minister had dealt in shares from 10 Downing Street, and had used the stock exchange, were made to a chorus of Conservative protests and some Labour cheers by Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolton, Lab), who failed in an attempt to get an emergency Commons debate on the charges.

Mr Skinner said that he wanted to refer to prime ministerial conduct of interest, because it had always been accepted in the House that ministers, including prime ministers, should not be involved in dealing in shares because they were privy to inside information which the ordinary public was not. There had been countless instances when ministers could have made millions.

It was not right and proper for the Prime Minister to deal in shares when there was massive speculation on the Stock Exchange and the Financial Times index had gone through 1,400.

Number 10 did not belong to the Prime Minister, but to the nation, and was used for Cabinet meetings and for the public and advance information which could lead to a lot of money being made by a lot of people.

It was important because of the background of City fraud, unexposed in many years and because of public belief and others believed there should be a full independent inquiry.

We might have gone to the Director of Public Prosecutions about the matter (he said) but we have no faith in him.

Parliament today

Lords (2.30): Education Bill, committee stage.

Commons (2.30): Gas Bill, third reading; Easter adjournment; motion; Lords amendments to Local Government Bill.

School governors: 2

Parents who need training for power

In the second of two reports on parent governors, Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent, looks at the experts' hopes of the reforms going through Parliament.

federation of Parent Teacher Associations, said that this was top priority. Without training, parent governors could not question what was going on in school.

Mrs Barbara Bullivant, secretary of the National Association of Governors and Managers, runs training courses for new parent governors.

"It is difficult for parent governors where they are newly elected," she said. "People are unsure and no one wants to tread on anyone's toes."

The way to give parents sufficient confidence in meetings to raise issues and contribute to debate was to introduce them to committee work and give them experience in role playing, she said.

The experts believe that the arrival of more parent governors will have a beneficial effect.

Mrs Joan Sallis, chairman of the Campaign for the Advancement of State Education, said: "One parent governor has got nobody to talk to,

but if there are two to five of them they should feel more confident."

Removing political domination should improve the quality of debate, she believes, and says that local authority nominees will no longer be able to wield power by simply putting up their hand to vote in meetings. Decisions, she adds, will have to be made by rational argument.

"There is no doubt that the forces against parent governors will still be very strong," she said. "There are a number of people who are very frightened by the new situation."

She was referring to local authorities and churches who are afraid that the reform will lead to more pressure on resources.

Mrs Sallis's own authority, Richmond, in south-west London, which introduced parent governors in the 1970s, has been unable to cut the education budget because of parental pressure.

"When a parent governor has the right to know that an

adjustment in the pupil/teacher ratio at his school means that a teacher will be lost — that is information which parents can use and that is terribly important in the long run."

Richmond's experience had been encouraging, she said. Parent governors there raised the issue of children sharing textbooks. That highlighted the way in which schools spent their "capitation" allowance on books and equipment.

Powerful teachers were often able to command much more money than the less powerful and there was no rational budgeting. Parent governors discovered that school boards did not even use their capitation allowance, and that decisions were made by head teachers in secret. All that had changed.

She added, however, that parent governors needed support. They needed access to the school and the ability to make easy contact with teachers and other governors.

"Attending a staff meeting is more enlightening and gives you more information about how a school works than a whole term of lectures."

Concluded



The owl and the pussycat (the barn owl and the wild cat) are two species of wildlife at risk, which are shown on a series of stamps to be issued by the Post Office on May 20. The barn owl is declining rapidly because of a lack of suitable nesting places. The wild cat is found in the Scottish Highlands and in the Border area. The stamps are designed by Ken Lilly.

Ex-police chief wins ruling on legal costs

Mr Alfred Parrish, the former Chief Constable of Derbyshire, yesterday won a High Court ruling that he is not liable to pay the county police authority's legal costs bill — estimated at between £25,000 and £35,000 — resulting from his year-long court battle to be allowed to retire after accusations of financial irregularities.

Lord Justice Croom-Johnson and Mr Justice Mann decided that each side must pay its own costs.

The authority had claimed that Mr Parrish should pay the total costs of the case because he had eventually abandoned his action.

Mr Parrish argued that he did so only after it became unnecessary to proceed.

Mr Parrish applied to retire on health grounds in September 1984. Derbyshire County Council refused because it wanted him to face disciplinary proceedings. But Mr Parrish was eventually allowed to go when the Home Secretary intervened last November.

Sale room

Figure found in farm drawer makes £33,000

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A little wooden figure found in a drawer by a Northumbrian farmer, and

Action demand on drinking as yearly deaths rise to 25,000

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

More than 25,000 people a year are dying in Britain as a direct result of alcohol abuse, and the nation is now drinking twice as much liquor as in the 1950s, experts say in a report published today.

The report, *An Agenda for Action on Alcohol*, calls for a campaign to cut drink consumption by 30 to 40 per cent through higher taxes, a ban on advertising and tougher restrictions on licensed premises.

Britons are spending more than £35 million a day on alcohol, but the annual bill to the country for alcohol abuse has been estimated at £1,680 million in the cost of sickness, absence, hospital treatment, unemployment and premature death.

The catalogue of harm caused by excessive drinking is both "excessive and dramatic", the report by the Action on Alcohol Abuse organization says.

One in three drivers involved in road accidents, which cause thousands of deaths and injuries every year, is over the legal limit. Half of those convicted for murder killed while drunk, and drinking is also linked with 52 per cent of deaths from fire, one third of all domestic accidents, and 30 per cent of drownings.

The organization, supported by the British Medical

Association, the Health Education Council and other groups, criticized Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, for not raising taxes on spirits, wines and beers in last week's Budget.

Mr Don Steele, director of A.A.A., said: "The Chancellor has in effect reduced the real price of alcohol and flows in the face of every available piece of evidence which shows that lower prices mean higher consumption and more problems."

He added: "The current hysteria on 'hard' drug abuse is drawing attention away from the real killer. In 1984, at least 26,500 people died as a result of heavy drinking, but just 235 deaths resulted from drug abuse."

Since 1950 the price of drink has fallen by almost 50 per cent in real terms, the report says. The Exchequer would receive £6 billion from taxes on alcohol in the current year, and any moves which risked reducing that income were likely to be opposed.

The fact that the English football team may be going to Mexico, sponsored by the Courage brewery might well say something about us as a nation," the report says.

An Agenda for Action on Alcohol (A.A.A., Livingston House, 11 Charter Street, London SW1 9DL)

Ministers named for crime fight

A high-level group of ministers and officials has been set up to develop the Government's crime prevention strategy, Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, announced yesterday.

In a Commons written reply to Mr Peter Thomas, Conservative MP for Hendon South, Mr Hurd said the group would be headed by Mr Giles Shaw, Minister of State at the Home Office, who has special responsibility for crime prevention.

Mr Hurd said: "Much work is already in hand following the crime prevention seminar hosted by the Prime Minister in January. But it is important that the momentum is not lost."

The Home Office said the success of any initiative on crime prevention depended on public support.

NUT calls for an end to pay constraint

The National Union of Teachers yesterday called on the Government to commit itself to funding any agreement from current negotiations on pay and conditions.

It said in its opening submission to the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service panel supervising the long-term talks that there was "no possibility" of a deal on salary, conditions or teacher appraisal against a background of predetermined financial constraints.

This amounted to a demand that Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, should increase the £1.25 billion he has already said is available, provided an acceptable deal on conditions is reached.

Anger over proposal for tree-ringed town

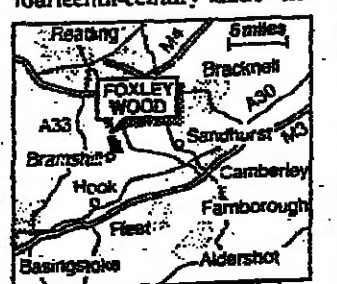
By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

A secluded circle of pine forest in north Hampshire has been chosen as a screen for the second complete new town planned by Consortium Developments in countryside near London.

Bramhill Plantation near the Berkshire border was named yesterday as the site for the second town in a series of five.

The site of the third is to be named in the summer. The plantation is in the area covered by the hung Hart district council. Mr David Carrow, independent vice-chairman of the Hart housing committee, said yesterday: "At the moment folk just want to cover our countryside with houses."

The second town, to be called Foxley Wood after a fourteenth-century landowner



Husak follows Soviet lead and attacks 'inertia' in party

From Roger Boyes, Prague

Mr Gustav Husak, the Czechoslovak leader, yesterday took on board some of the lessons of the new Soviet leadership and criticized the "inertia" and high-handedness of some Communist officials. But although his criticism at the party congress was sharp, it fell far short of Mr Gorbachev's shake-up of the Soviet party, government and economy.

This is the first party congress in Eastern Europe since

the Moscow session and the question is: will the ripples of change spread throughout the Soviet bloc? Although Mr Husak, who spoke for more than three hours, called upon the delegates to start an "open and efficient" discussion, the congress looked set to be a rather calm, understated event. The word "reform" was not mentioned once.

Rather, he justified the economic and political lines pursued since the Warsaw Pact invasion of 1968 on the grounds that they had maintained stability and a high

standard of living in the country. The stagnation of the Czechoslovak economy was partly due to "negative influences" from the rest of the world and partly to an inefficient use of resources.

"The development we have achieved since the early 1970s is a telling answer to all the anti-socialist and revisionist forces who foretold that the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic would never extricate itself from the crisis of the late 1960s."

The answer to Prague's problems, Mr Husak said, was

to "intensify" the economy: that is to deploy resources more intelligently. There was also no question of political liberalization.

In a clear message to Czechoslovakia's dissident opposition, he said: "We shall allow no one to violate our laws, to undermine our political system, our socialist order, whatever lofty phrases he might use about freedom, democracy and the so-called struggle for human rights."

But the Gorbachev lesson means that Moscow's allies have to inject more self-

criticism into their public gatherings. And so the 73-year-old Mr Husak, stumbling only occasionally, spoke of high-handedness and abuse of "trust" by some Communist Party officials.

There was no place in the office of the party for such attitudes, he said, earning one of the longest rounds of applause in the congress so far. Over the past few years, he said, one-third of Communist Party secretaries and 40 per cent of regional party chiefs had lost their jobs.

But while those figures

sound like a purge, they merely represent for the most part a natural turnover of officials. It remains to be seen whether this congress will produce really barbed criticism from the rank and file delegates and whether this criticism leads to important personnel changes.

Certainly, big changes in the complexion of the party are planned — a much younger, more technocratic Central Committee is expected — but the main policy line of step-by-step change will be maintained.

Muscovite with a mission

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

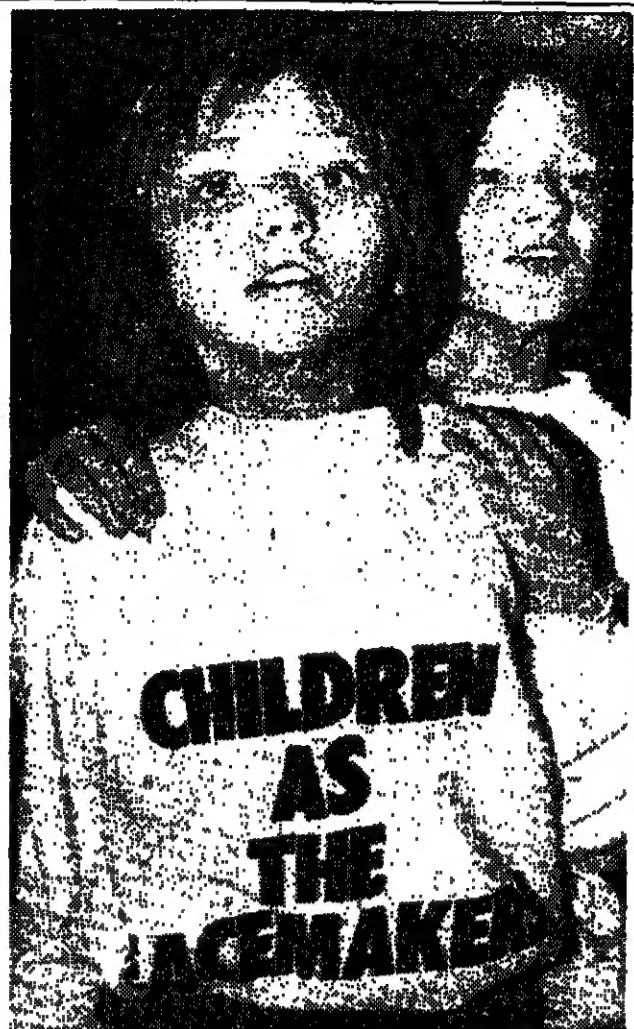
Katerina Lycheva, aged 11, a student at Special School Number 4 in Moscow, is on a peace mission to the United States, telling American children that her country desires only harmony with its fellow superpower.

Her two-week tour, which began in Chicago on Friday, is reminiscent of the trip by Samantha Smith, the Maine schoolgirl who went to the Soviet Union in 1983 at the invitation of Yuri Andropov, the late Soviet leader.

But the alling, disappointed Samantha by not receiving her. She was killed last August when a light plane in which she was travelling crashed near her home.

Katya, as Katerina is known to her friends, won the trip to America after suggesting that her school set up a memorial museum to Samantha. Her trip includes New York, Washington, Houston and Los Angeles.

In Chicago she joined in lessons at LaSalle Language Academy and visited Mayor Harold Washington. He gave her a mascot of the Chicago Bears, this year's football champions.



Katerina Lycheva, the young Soviet "peacemaker", with an American companion at New York's La Guardia airport.

Sailors freeze to death on liferaft

Stockholm — Six Finnish sailors who had abandoned their ship froze to death on a liferaft during a severe storm in the Baltic Sea (Christopher Mosey writes).

They left the ship, the merchant vessel Karelia, late on Sunday when its cargo of cars and lorries broke loose. It later ran aground on the island of Gotland.

Huge waves, high winds,

sub-zero temperatures and poor visibility because of snow hindered rescue efforts, but a Swedish Navy helicopter managed to winch 11 men from the liferaft and fly them to hospital in Visby, on the island of Gotland.

Two were dead on arrival. The remaining five were picked up by a West German vessel that answered the Karelia's distress call, but four

of them were dead. All the survivors are out of danger.

In the Gulf of Bothnia, further north, the Finnish ferry Wassa Express, with more than a thousand passengers on board, gave up attempts to reach the Swedish port of Umea because of ice.

Despite the assistance of several icebreakers, the ferry was forced to put into the ice-free port of Skelleftehamn.

PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

Syria: Abd al-Massih Kiryakos

By Caroline Moorhead

The headmaster of a secondary school and former soldier, Abd al-Massih Kiryakos, has been held for the past 10 years in al-Mezze military prison in Damascus, allegedly for belonging to the pro-Iraqi wing of the Baath Party National Command in Syria. Detained under the state of emergency laws in force since 1963, he has never been formally charged or tried. He is believed to be suffering from a kidney disease.

The Baath Party has been in power in Syria since 1963, and different factions have gained and lost power at different times. Relations between Syria and Iraq deteriorated sharply in 1975, and widespread arrests of those suspected of supporting the pro-Iraqi wing of the party followed. Several people remain in detention, without charge or trial.

Abd al-Massih Kiryakos is in his mid-forties. He is married and has an 11-year-old daughter, born after his arrest. His wife was not allowed to see him until 1980.



Mr al-Massih Kiryakos: no formal charge or trial.

Five-hour delay on Sindona

From John Earle, Rome

Criticism is mounting over the way authorities have been handling the inquiry into the poisoning of jailed Sicilian financier Michele Sindona.

It has emerged that 3½ hours, in which evidence could have been tampered with, elapsed before the investigating magistrate was informed of Sindona's collapse and sealed the prison cell.

Experts began yesterday, four days after the event, to analyse the remains of coffee and milk served to Sindona for his fatal breakfast last Thursday.

The financier collapsed during breakfast and died 53 hours later. The examination by toxicologists at Pavia University Institute of Forensic Medicine could provide a vital clue as to whether Sindona committed suicide or was murdered.

But, in any case, the question will still remain as to how the poison reached the financier, aged 65, who was last week sentenced to life imprisonment for ordering the murder of Giorgio Ambrosoli, the lawyer appointed to liquidate his collapsed Italian bank in 1974.

Sindona was isolated at Voghera Prison, in northern Italy, where all his meals were taken to him in specially sealed containers.

The mystery is assuming the proportions of that surrounding the death of Roberto Calvi found hanging from Blackfriars Bridge, London, in 1982.

The two were business associates and had dealings with the Vatican Bank under the chairmanship of Monsignor Paul Marcinkus, the American archbishop still at its head.

Waldheim hits back

Vienna (Reuters) — Mr Simon Wiesenthal, the Nazi hunter, yesterday called on Yugoslavia to respond to charges that Dr Kurt Waldheim, the former UN Secretary-General, was listed as a suspected Nazi war criminal, wanted by Yugoslavia for complicity in murder.

Speaking to journalists at the Jewish Documentation Centre in Vienna, which he heads, Mr Wiesenthal said the listing raised to a new level the controversy around Dr Waldheim, who is seeking the Austrian presidency.

Dr Waldheim yesterday rejected all allegations of a Nazi past and accused the World Jewish Congress, which says it has found his name on a 1948 US Army list of those sought by Yugoslavia, of waging a slander campaign against him.

Mr Wiesenthal said: "If this was the last list sent by the Yugoslav Government to the United Nations, then the question is why they never asked for his extradition."

He said it was possible that Dr Waldheim had been dropped from a later list because of lack of evidence

Gorbachov's campaign for openness

Publishing chief calls on press to take risks and upset the powerful

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

A leading Soviet journalist, recently promoted by Mr Gorbachov, has delivered a swinging attack on the unrealistic picture of life in the Soviet Union painted by the state-controlled press, and has called on Soviet journalists to be more critical.

In an outspoken interview with the magazine of the powerful Soviet Journalists' Union, Mr Mikhail Nenashv, newly appointed chief of the country's vast publishing industry, accused the Soviet press of laxity in informing both the party and public about "difficulties, blunders and mistakes".

Mr Nenashv, until last month editor of *Sovetskaya Rossiya*, the daily paper in the vanguard of Mr Gorbachov's campaign for greater "openness", urged his fellow journalists, many of whom have long been frustrated by the severe restrictions imposed on them, to be willing to take risks and upset those in power.

His clarion call for a new type of Soviet journalism was the most explicit and far-reaching of any of the recent internal critiques of the media, which are seen by Mr Gorbachov as a vital ally in his efforts to reform the ramshackle and often corrupt administration.

"Socialism is no kingdom of heaven, it is an earthly phenomenon with its own problems, difficulties and illnesses, mostly natural growing pains," Mr Nenashv said.

"The people must hear about problems, shortcomings and mistakes first and foremost from the press."

In answer to one question, in which the interviewer openly referred to much of what appears in the leaden official press as "political drivel", Mr Nenashv alleged that, either voluntarily or involuntarily, Soviet reporters had been "smoothing over" problems.

Nuclear tests are likely to resume

The Soviet Union has a number of nuclear weapons it will have to test over the next months if it is to keep abreast of America's defence modernization programme, according to Western analysts (Nicholas Ashford writes).

Moscow is expected to end its self-imposed nuclear moratorium since the US has clearly demonstrated with its Nevada explosion at the weekend that it has no intention of taking up Mr Gorbachov's offer for a joint test freeze.

Inside the Soviet Union,

"In our newspaper practice, we presented an over-simplified picture of reality, which was far from real," he explained, with a degree of self-criticism which until recently would have been remarkable in any official publication here. "How could our work be effective if people were reading one thing and often seeing a completely different reality around them?"

Mr Nenashv, who has 211 years of responsibility for the thematic content of most books produced in the Soviet Union, added: "Let us call successes successes, shortcomings shortcomings and mistakes mistakes. Much depends on the capacity of a journalist to show professional boldness."

As an example, he said, the Soviet Union had 104 more Soviet-style houses than last year exposed a big Moscow housing scandal, the publication of which, in the face of Communist Party opposition, led to the political downfall of a number of officials, including Mr Viktor Grishin, who was ousted from the Politburo earlier this year.

Mr Nenashv explained that officials felt so immune from criticism that they revealed details of the scandal to a reporter in the belief that it would never appear in print. They disclosed that the housing administration regularly falsified figures for the construction of houses and reported that new homes were ready for use when, in fact, many were not even equipped with basic amenities.

"The officials openly said to the reporter: 'Behind us stand the Moscow party and Government.' They were sure that... at some stage someone high up would say that it was not necessary to give out such information about Moscow. But we had received such convincing facts that it was impossible to doubt them, and we immediately published them in the newspaper."

FROM 1st APRIL 1986 Report an injury...

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Doubts as FDP chief flies to sign deal

America baffled by Bonn squabble on Star Wars role

Herr Martin Bangemann, West Germany's Economics Minister, left for Washington to sign agreements, probably tomorrow, on the Strategic Defence Initiative, or Star Wars.

But, among other things, remarks at the weekend by Herr Helmut Haussmann, general secretary of the Free Democrats, the party of which Herr Bangemann is leader, will cause the Americans to wonder whether the minister's signature commits Bonn to anything in particular, other than to the prospect of a few rich contracts for West German companies.

The problem is that the Free Democrats are on the whole opposed to SDI. Herr Haussmann said the remaining questions about it could not be "cleared up at troop bases".

Mr Bangemann is in Germany to attend the Nato Planning Group meeting at Würzburg. The meeting at the base was supposed to deal with any doubts the West

From Frank Johnson, Bonn

Germans might still have had about SDI.

But Herr Haussmann seemed anxious to depict it as a brief, superficial exchange which could not possibly have done justice to so complex a subject.

He said remaining doubts could be cleared up only by experts. Herr Kohl was yesterday reported to regard these remarks as "an incredible impertinence".

So it is still not known how far Bonn is committed on SDI. This is entirely because of West German domestic politics and, in particular, because those politics revolve around a government which is a coalition.

Most West German politicians and parties would rather not have a policy on SDI — apart from Herr Franz Josef Strauss and his Bavarian Christian Social Union, who are for it. Most see it as passing American enthusiasm which will not survive Mr Reagan's presidency in anything like its original, inspirational form.

They also see any Bonn commitment to it as damaging the overriding West German

goal of improved relations with the Soviet Union, a goal to which Herr Kohl and the Christian Democrats (CDU) are committed, whatever they may have said in opposition.

But they do not want West German companies to be left out of any contracts which SDI may offer. Over the months of controversy, the CDU, perhaps because of Herr Kohl's desire to keep on good terms with Mr Reagan, has become guardedly in favour of the principle of SDI.

The FDP, apart from Herr Bangemann, has remained opposed — particularly its former leader, Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, whose opposition makes reading Bonn's true intentions even more baffling for the Americans, since he is Foreign Minister.

As a compromise, Herr Kohl decided to emphasise Bonn's economic — as opposed to political or military — interest in SDI by putting the Minister of Economics in charge of the negotiations, in contrast to Britain, whose dealings with Mr Weinberger, were conducted by Mr Michael Heseltine, then Defence Secretary.

Howe aid offer to Belgrade

From Dossa Trevisan, Belgrade

Britain has reaffirmed its willingness to help Yugoslavia through its economic crisis, now in its fifth year and showing no signs of abating.

On a two-day visit here, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, said Britain valued Yugoslavia's independence, non-alignment and domestic stability, and, in that context, was willing to help.

Sir Geoffrey, speaking at a luncheon hosted by Mr Raif Dizdarevic, the Yugoslav Foreign Minister, said that Yugoslavia's economic stabilisation programme was in keeping with the world-wide trend towards economic liberalism.

He said human rights were also a matter of special concern to Britain, especially as the follow-up meeting on the Helsinki Accord was due to be held in Vienna later this year. He indicated that trials of Yugoslavs for their opinions and the expulsion of British journalists was viewed with disapproval by Britain.

Greece sets terms for Cyprus pact

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Greece gave a warning yesterday that it would accept no settlement on Cyprus that did not meet three conditions: the withdrawal of all occupation forces from the island; international guarantees for Cyprus that would deny Turkey any unilateral intervention rights and the departure of more than 40,000 Turkish settlers now living in occupied Cyprus.

The Greek conditions were spelled out in a statement just as Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, wound up an official visit to Greece, and 48 hours before the arrival here of Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State.

Both have been urging Mr Andreas Papandou, the Greek Prime Minister, to support the forthcoming initiative on Cyprus of Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the UN Secretary-General.

The official statement said these conditions were vital to safeguard the national security of Greece. "Any other solution," it added, "would vindicate the Turkish inva-

sion of Cyprus and encourage Turkish expansionism, and would therefore be unacceptable to the Greek Government."

The statement was seen as a hardening of the Greek position just before Mr Papandou's talks with Mr Shultz, who is expected in Athens later today when the Greeks are celebrating Independence Day, the 165th anniversary of their revolution against Turkish domination.

This coincidence was invoked by an organization of left-wing extremists calling itself Revolutionary Group Christos Kasimis in a statement that claimed responsibility for the time-bomb on Saturday night which blasted President Truman's statue off its pedestal in central Athens.

● ANKARA: A senior US official said yesterday it was unlikely that an agreement extending a US military aid-for-bases pact with Turkey would be concluded during Mr Shultz's visit (Reuters reports).

Filipinos picket US bases

From Keith Dalton, Manila

Filipino workers on strike at two United States military bases in the Philippines yesterday agreed to meet American negotiators to thrash out a new wage agreement. But they continued to man barricades there.

The four-day-old strike by 22,000 employees has had little impact on operations at Subic Bay naval base, Clark Air Force base and four smaller installations, although US servicemen have been forced to assume maintenance and catering duties. Entertainment facilities and PX stores have been closed.

The picket lines and barricades of rocks and logs are forcing Subic Bay servicemen to enter and leave the sprawling base, 50 miles north-west of Manila, by boat.

At least six pickets and seven servicemen were injured — some knifed — in scuffles on Friday night when Marines tried to break through the picket lines, local police and US authorities reported.

The pickets have been peaceful at the Clark base, 50 miles north of Manila, and at the communications installations.

A small group of left-wing demonstrators, who marched on Sunday night to the main gate to join the picket "against US imperialism", were forcibly turned away by the strike-



President Aquino with Leticia Ramos-Shahani (left), sister of the Philippine armed forces commander, General Fidel Ramos, after she was sworn in as Deputy Foreign Minister.

ers, who said it was not a political rally.

The strike was called after negotiations on severance pay ended in deadlock. The Federation of Filipino Civilian Employees Associations wants workers who resign voluntarily to get severance pay, but US policy is to grant such pay only to employees who retire or are dismissed.

The Labour Ministry said formal negotiations would begin in Manila tomorrow.

● CEBU CITY: A regional military commander said more than 1,000 alleged communist "cadres" gave themselves up to the military yesterday in the first mass surrender of rebels since President Aquino came to power (AP reports).

Naked worshippers lay bare dignity of police and press

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Each year devotees of the Hindu goddess, Renukadevi, gather on the banks of the Varada river in Karnataka, strip and parade naked for 2½ miles to an ancient temple.

They have been doing it for centuries, but recently the festival has become the centre of unenviable attention from the media and do-gooders anxious to reform the practice.

At the weekend the festival went sour as thousands of pilgrims turned on their tor-

mentors from the press, a group of social workers and the police, forcibly stripped them and paraded them through the dusty village streets.

All through the week devotees had been pouring into the tiny village of Chandragiri in preparation for the three-day festival. They camped round the bullock carts that had brought them to the riverside.

Early in the morning thousands of them entered the river for the dip and plunge that cleanses both body and soul.

Then a middle-aged woman without a stitch on her finally broke through the social workers' cordon and made for the temple, at which point the fanatics took over and attacked all those whom they thought were opposed to nude worship.

The first to be attacked were the press photographers, then the crowd turned on the social workers and the police, ostensibly there to keep order. They were stripped and beaten and forced to walk naked to the temple.

They went so far as to try to drape a few women to restore a modicum of Indian modesty. The crowd did not like that and, after an hour of argument, the social workers were outnumbered by the throng of nadists.

دولت در دست

THE TIMES TUESDAY MARCH 25 1986



Shopkeepers from Atteridgeville, near Pretoria, collecting their goods from delivery vehicles stopped by security forces outside the township's main entrance because of an indefinite boycott of white-owned businesses by black consumers.

Neglect kills crash victims

Johannesburg — People injured in road accidents in some parts of South Africa have a better chance of surviving if the ambulance fails to turn up (Ray Kennedy writes).

The Automobile Association of South Africa says the vast majority of those who die as a result of traffic accidents are alive after the impact.

It says the lack of training and equipment is the biggest killer. It quotes one traffic officer as saying: "I called for an ambulance at 8.30am. By the time it arrived at 11.00am, the woman had bled to death. I used a newspaper to try to stop the bleeding — it's all I had."

● Treatment denied: A young coloured woman paralysed from the neck down in a road accident is being denied access to the spinal unit of Pretoria's Verwoerd Hospital — named after Dr Hendrik Verwoerd, the architect of apartheid — because it is reserved for whites.

Three die as work boycott sweeps black townships

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Three blacks were reported to have been killed yesterday as massive work stoppages began in townships south-east of here and a consumer boycott was launched in Pretoria.

Their deaths brought the number of people killed in the past few days to at least 23. Residents in Ratananda township, near Heidelberg, south-east of Johannesburg, said two people who were trying to ignore a two-day work boycott call were killed when they were caught in police crossfire.

A third man had been killed overnight in a township shebeen by "vigilantes," the residents said.

The work boycott has been called over the killing of a woman by police last week and the detention of two civic leaders.

Work stoppages were also in force in six other townships, including Sharpeville, over the jailing of participants in a rent boycott.

the eastern Transvaal KwaNdebele homeland.

Representatives of civil rights groups presented a petition in Cape Town yesterday to Mr Louis Le Grange, the Minister of Law and Order, and Mr Kobie Le Grange, the Minister of Justice, protesting against "the assault, intimidation and harassment" of black children on a countrywide basis by the security forces.

● LONDON: An academic conference aimed at bringing together all sides in South Africa, including the outlawed African National Congress, has been called off because of what the organizers believe is disinformation in the British and South African press (Nicholas Ashford writes).

The conference, due to start yesterday and run for five days, was organized by Wilton Park, the independent academic institute housed in Wiston House, Steyning, Surrey.

Strains appear in French coalition

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The first strains within the new "government of cohabitation" have arisen not from a clash between the Socialist President and his right-wing Prime Minister, as was expected, but from rivalry within the ranks of the coalition itself.

Mr Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, a former president, and M Jacques Chaban-Delmas, a former Gaullist prime minister, are said to be rivals for the presidency of the National Assembly even though both deny seeking the post for themselves.

It is reported that both are being actively supported by their respective parties, the centre-right UDF and the Gaullist RPR, and have turned down ministerial posts in the new government.

M Jacques Toubon, general secretary of the RPR, said that in accordance with parliamentary tradition, the presidency should go to the party with the most deputies, namely the RPR. He said M Chaban-Delmas, having held the post twice before, should be the

right's candidate as he had the necessary experience.

M Chaban-Delmas, who like M Giscard d'Estaing was once considered a possible candidate for the prime minister's post, said: "I know the work well. I've already done it for 12 or 13 years." But he was quick to add: "I'm not seeking a post. I've already had many in my life."

Meanwhile, M Giscard d'Estaing has been calling for "a striking demonstration of the union of the right by the

designation of a UDF member as president of the National Assembly". But like M Chaban-Delmas he says he is not seeking the presidency for himself.

Tensions between the RPR and its junior partner, the UDF, have already begun to arise over the way the Gaullists seem to have taken the most important ministerial posts.

The new coalition, nevertheless, is no immediate danger of splitting.

Corsica bomb blasts

Paris — Three bombs destroyed the restaurant and kitchen of a tourist complex at Portofino in southern Corsica (Susan MacDonald writes).

Four German holiday-makers and a staff member and his family were held hostage for several hours by four armed and masked men prior to the explosion on Saturday night.

No one was injured in the bombing. It was the first time this

tourist complex has been hit even though others were targeted last year.

The attack followed the Corsican Regional Council elections on Friday when the right-wing Gaullist RPR retained the presidency.

Despite the island's special status, awarded in 1962 and designed to give Corsica greater autonomy, the bombing is thought to be a warning that the extremist struggle for independence will continue.

UK-Spain extradition deal seals off crime bolt-hole

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

From July 1 no one committing a crime in Britain will be able to think of Spain as a bolt-hole, or vice versa.

That is the firm intention of the two Governments, which signed the instrument of ratification of a new extradition treaty here yesterday. A statutory period must elapse before it comes into effect this summer.

"Today's signing ends a long period in which the Governments of Spain and Britain were unable to collaborate on the handling over of wanted criminals," Señor Fernando Ledesma, the Spanish Justice Minister, said after the ratification document was signed by Lord Nicholas Gordon Lennox, the British Ambassador in Madrid, and Señor Francisco Fernández Ordóñez, the Spanish Foreign Minister.

The treaty closes an eight year gap since the 1878 extradition treaty was allowed to lapse by the Franco regime, which argued that British

court procedures made it virtually impossible to secure the delivery of wanted Spaniards.

Señor Ledesma, who signed the treaty in London last July with Mr Leon Brittan, then Home Secretary, looked forward yesterday to a new phase marked by a willingness on both sides to co-operate and negotiate on any difficulties. He promised that Spanish officials would see to it that the new arrangements functioned satisfactorily.

The treaty must first be ratified by each country's Parliament. It was held up for several weeks in the Spanish Senate by pressure of other legislation.

It applies to crimes liable to prison sentences of more than one year, including terrorism and financial crime. Spanish police will be able to hold those wanted by Britain for up to 40 days.

The treaty is not retrospective, however, and cannot affect the 100 or so Britons reportedly living on the Costa del Sol and

other Spanish resorts who are wanted for murder and armed robbery in Britain, including the £25 million Heathrow airport robbery of 1983.

A dozen wanted men living in southern Spain have been served with expulsion orders under the new Aliens Law, but there have been bureaucratic delays and the orders can still be challenged in the Spanish courts.

Señor José Barrionuevo, the Interior Minister, insisted recently that Spain was determined "to make life difficult" for British criminals.

When asked about Scotland Yard complaints that some of those wanted had been able to disappear, he said that both British and Spanish police sometimes lost track of wanted men.

Spain does not have enough police to keep an effective watch. Even if Madrid expels a Briton he cannot be forced to return home and can choose a retreat further from the attentions of the British press.

Arthit told to retire in August

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

The Thai Government yesterday ignored strident demands from the Army and refused to extend the military service of General Arthit Kamlang-Ek, the Army Commander-in-Chief.

The Thai Prime Minister, General Prem Tinsulanonda, said the Government could not run the country if it was afraid of the military. He said it would go against the principles of fairness and correctness to extend General Arthit's service for a second time. He would therefore have to retire at the end of August on reaching the age of 61. He could then serve the nation in some other capacity.

The Army's reaction was being awaited with some uneasiness but generally it was believed in Bangkok that the Government would prevail.

Reports of preparations for an Army rebellion against the Government swept Bangkok before and after yesterday's announcement but there was no sign of military activity in the capital.

Last week two of the most senior generals warned the Government that people were restless and there might be trouble if General Arthit was forced to retire. The general himself, however, has said he will accept the Government's decision.

General Arthit's service was extended last year because it was claimed he was needed to maintain national security and the unity of the armed forces. Similar reasons have been put forward this year.

General Arthit's retirement is seen as a setback to the prospects of becoming the next prime minister.

Sabah finds peace formula

Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia (Reuters) — Sabah's Muslim and Christian leaders have agreed to end the sectarian conflict in the state, the Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, said. The peace formula involved Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitigan, a Christian, staying on as Chief Minister.

Five people have been killed, 20 wounded and hundreds jailed in two weeks of rioting, bombings and arson by militant Muslims protesting against Datuk Pairin's alleged anti-Islamic stance.

Journalist told to go

Singapore (Reuters) — A Reuters correspondent, Miss Marilyn Ockimar, aged 31, has been asked to leave Singapore.

She quoted a survivor of last week's hotel collapse as saying that a rescue worker had demanded money from a dying woman.

Freak storm

Tokyo (UPI) — A freak spring snowstorm with typhoon-force winds cut Tokyo's electrical power, caused a train crash, whipped up high seas and left at least 13 people dead and 330 others injured in accidents.

\$1m offer

Philadelphia (UPI) — The manufacturers of Contac, Teldin and Dietac have increased to nearly \$1 million their reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of whoever planted rat poison in their drugs.

Debut death

Mariacabo (UPI) — A 20-year-old Venezuelan boxer, Gregorio Padrino, has died of head injuries received during his professional debut against flyweight Aquiles Guzmán, which he lost on points.

Fatal rocket

Valencia (AFP) — A rocket in a fireworks display at Sucra, eastern Spain, exploded among spectators instead of soaring skywards, killing a 38-year-old man and injuring 29 people, eight seriously.

Killer snow

Köln (Reuters) — A man aged 44 was killed when an avalanche hit the central Norwegian village of Fokkstua, burying him and four companions, who were unhurt.

Joint exercise

St George's (Reuters) — Grenada is to take part with the United States and some Caribbean countries in a joint security exercise later this month.

Crime drive

Taipei (Reuters) — The Taiwan Government has ordered more than 110,000 of the island's 340,000 companies to close down in an effort to crack down on commercial crime.

Wine toll

Lecco, Italy (Reuters) — The toll of victims poisoned by wine adulterated with methyl alcohol has risen to six, with the death of a 48-year-old man.

Fanatics clash

Lagos (Reuters) — Nine people have been injured during clashes in the central town of Ilorin between Christians and Muslim fanatics, sparked off when a Palm Sunday procession of Christians passed through a Muslim area.

Island threat

Saint-Denis (Reuters) — The Fournais volcano on the Réunion Indian Ocean island of Réunion belched streams of boiling lava as officials worked to evacuate threatened villages.

Haiti request

Rio de Janeiro (Reuters) — Haiti has requested the extradition of the former Port-au-Prince police chief, Mr Albert Pierre, who fled to Brazil after the downfall of President Jean-Claude Duvalier.

Wrong body

Bonn (Reuters) — Undertakers who mistakenly buried a one-legged tramp in a millionaire's coffin, while the rightful owner lay on a mortuary slab for a week, filed suit in a Bonn court to recover costs and pin the blame elsewhere.

Street blitz

Cairo (Reuters) — A retired Egyptian police general opened indiscriminate fire on pedestrians from his balcony, wounding two passers-by before police shot him dead.

Rebels jailed

Jakarta (Reuters) — Two Muslim extremists were jailed for 20 years in Malang, Java, for bombing a Roman Catholic church, a Buddhist temple and a tourist bus, in which seven people were killed.

Court gives Britain three weeks to list spy book objections

From Stephen Taylor, Sydney

The British Government has been given three weeks to detail its objections to a manuscript by a former MI5 spy-catcher which it is trying to have suppressed in Australia.

The order by the New South Wales Supreme Court yesterday cleared the way for an early hearing after more than six months of legal manoeuvring in the case in which Britain is seeking an injunction preventing the Australian branch of William Heinemann from publishing the memoirs of Mr Peter Wright.

Mr Wright, who retired from the security service 10 years ago and lives in Tasmania, caused a furore when he said during a Granada Television programme in 1984 that he was virtually certain that Sir Roger Hollis, his former boss, was a Soviet agent.

Britain launched its attempt to prevent publication in Australia of the Wright memoirs last year in an affidavit sworn by Sir Robert Armstrong, the Cabinet Secretary, in which it is alleged that the information Mr Wright has to impart is still bound by the Official Secrets Act.

In court here yesterday, Mr Malcolm Turnbull, appearing for Heinemann Australia and Mr Wright, said the defendants maintained that much of the material in the manuscript was already in the public domain and that there was nothing which could assist a hostile power.

What there was, he added, was information dealing with "crimes and inquiries", which should be published on the ground that it was in the public interest.

Fifteen of the 18 chapters of manuscript had already been forwarded to the authorities in Britain, with an affidavit sworn by Mr Wright to this effect. The defendants were willing to have the remaining three chapters delivered to lawyers acting for the Government and Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney-General, but wanted the objections to the memoirs particularized.

Mr Turnbull said there were two main issues. The first was the question of copyright, whether in fact the MI5 man had had a contract with the Crown at all. The second was confidentiality.

"If the plaintiffs will say what in the manuscript is confidential we will say why we think it is not," Mr William Caldwell, for the Government, requested more time for preparation of pleadings, in effect listing its objections, saying the stipulated time was "just not enough when the case involves overseas consultations".

But Mr Justice Powell said it was "time to get the matter into the marketplace". The case had its own problems, he added, such as whether Australia should be concerned itself with what was in the public interest in Britain.

He issued directives requiring the defendants to deliver the remainder of the manuscript by April 2, and requiring the Government to submit its objections by April 16. The hearing was adjourned until April 28.

In the Granada programme Mr Wright, who headed the Hollis inquiry and spent about 15 years investigating Soviet penetration of British intelligence, said he was "99 per cent certain" that Sir Roger had spied for the Russians.



Sikhs blocking a highway leading to Batala in Punjab. Two people were shot dead near the riot-scarred town yesterday.

Tamil exiles ask Gandhi to intervene

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Sri Lankan Tamils in exile in India are openly urging Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister, to send his forces to the island to end what they call "the ongoing process of genocide".

The exiles claim that the only way genocide can be stopped "and a just and lasting settlement achieved is by a humanitarian military intervention by India as the regional power".

They say the Sri Lankan Government's unilateral cessation of bombing by its armed forces would be meaningless unless its troops and auxiliaries were withdrawn or an Indian peace-keeping force sent to Sri Lanka.

Other Tamil exiles, notably Mr Appapillai Amirthalingham, the general secretary of the Tamil United Liberation Front, have compared the situation in Sri Lanka to that in east Bengal during the struggle for liberation from the West Pakistan Government. On that occasion, India intervened militarily on the side of the rebels.

But Mr Gandhi has ruled out the possibility of any armed invasion by his forces. India, however, is using its diplomatic muscle to bring pressure against the Sri Lankan Government. The "good offices" efforts of India remain suspended and Western governments are being influenced to reduce contacts with the Sri Lankans.

India not bound by offer on Bhopal

Delhi (Reuter) — India is not bound by a proposed settlement with the US-based Union Carbide company that could give Bhopal poison gas disaster victims up to \$600 million (about £400 million), Mr Asoke Sen, the Indian Law Minister, said yesterday.

The minister did not categorically reject the settlement, announced by Union Carbide on Sunday, but he said it was not an agreement between the Indian Government and the company.

"The Indian Government will not recognize agreements arrived at by private parties," Mr Sen said, referring to a law passed last year giving his government the sole right to file suits against Union Carbide. India had agreed to be part of the class action suit, meaning that all the cases are heard as one, but insisted that it alone was the representative of all the claimants at hearings in New York.

The settlement announced by Union Carbide was agreed between the company and American lawyers representing plaintiffs from Bhopal.

More than 2,000 people died and 200,000 were injured in December 1984 when a cloud of methyl isocyanate gas leaked from a pesticides plant owned by Union Carbide's Indian subsidiary.

Thousands face deportation

Selfish deal with Delhi suspected

From John Best, Toronto

Sikhs in Canada have been convulsed by a recent decision of the Conservative Government to resume deporting east Indians living here in defiance of Canadian law.

They see it as an example of stiffening official attitudes, and suspect that it was taken either in collusion with Indian authorities or to ingratiate the Canadian Government with Delhi, or both.

As many as 2,800 Indians, most of them Sikhs, face deportation as a result of the lifting of a moratorium in effect since the storming of the Golden Temple at Amritsar in June 1984.

Sikh spokesmen have maintained that in ending the moratorium, which was first imposed out of compassion for Indians who feared returning to a Punjab homeland caught up in ethnic strife, Canada was condemning many Sikhs to interrogation by Indian police, to jail, torture and even death.

Most originally came to Canada to visit relatives, then applied for refugee status so that they could stay. Few qualified, however, the majority being unable to prove that they would be subjected to persecution if they returned to India.

Sikh leaders have made repeated representations to have the Canadian decision rescinded, but to no avail. They have hired a lawyer to pursue it further.

Sikhs appear convinced that the move was orchestrated by the Delhi Government and that Canada acquiesced for selfish economic reasons: closer trade and industrial development ties with India.

The announcement of the lifting of the moratorium came just weeks before a pre-Christmas trip to India by the Canadian Minister of External Affairs, Mr Joe Clark.

During that trip he went out of his way to show Canada's support for the Delhi regime in its fight against Sikh separatism and terrorism; he presented Indian authorities with the draft of an extradition treaty; and he pledged that Canadian intelligence would work with Indian services to counter Sikh extremism.

None of this, of course, was

Sikhs in Canada Part 2

lost on a Canadian ethnic and religious community grown increasingly sceptical. If not paranoid, about its acceptance by the rest of Canadian society.

Not long before, Sikhs had been distressed and infuriated by a Supreme Court ruling denying the right of Canadian National Railways yard workers to wear a turban instead of the hard hat required by CNR regulations. For Canadians generally, the case meant nothing. For Sikhs it was like a stab in the throat.

"Religious rights of the Sikhs have been violated," thundered one leader, Mr Mohinder Singh Gosal. "The community has been thrown here into the cold street."

Sikhs also allege that the Indian High Commission here and consulates across Canada have been trying to infiltrate Sikh leadership cadres for destabilization and discord.

The High Commission laughily dismissed the accusation which, however, gained a degree of verisimilitude when, in India, Mr Clark said that Canada would review any such activity as inappropriate. For the record, he also made a point of telling his hosts that most Canadian Sikhs are law-abiding and peaceful. "It is the minority that troubles us all."

The struggles of the Sikh community in Canada have often turned ugly. Two people were killed when a dispute between rival factions erupted into a Toronto courtroom in 1980. Two Sikh demonstrators and a policeman were wounded in shooting during a procession outside the Indian Consulate here in 1982. Typically, Sikh leaders accused consulate officials of provoking the clash.

Such incidents have helped to cultivate among many Canadians an image of the Sikhs as a violence-prone minority in a relatively peaceful land of many ethnic groups. Responsible members of the Sikh community are troubled by this image.

"Violence is renounced by all Sikhs," said Mr Tejinder Singh, a leader of the Toronto community. "But if justice is delayed, violence will come. And there will be very few who'll be able to renounce it."

Such ambivalence underlines the complexity of the play of forces and loyalties which tugs at Canada's Sikhs. And it makes other Canadians wonder.

Four killed in mass escape from Sind jail

From Hassan Akhtar, Islamabad

At least four people, including a warder, have been killed and many more wounded in shooting during a jailbreak in Sukkur, in central Sind.

Thirty-five condemned prisoners escaped when about 50 armed men overpowered the staff and broke open the cells. It is not yet known whether political prisoners were among the escapees, three of whom were recaptured.

The jail superintendent was among those wounded on Sunday, and is critically ill. No arrests have been made.

There has recently been an upsurge of violence in Sind, the province of the executed former Prime Minister, Mr Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

Police told to shoot on sight in Bangladesh

Dhaka — A curfew and orders to shoot on sight have been ordered in the south-eastern Bangladesh town of Sylhet after medical students clashed with local people (Ahmed Fazl writes).

The town's police chief said yesterday that residents and shopkeepers armed with knives and sticks, had attacked a medical college in the town, about 240 miles from here, in protest against students who forced shops to close during an opposition strike call on Saturday.

Cabinet reshuffle: President Ershad has reduced his Cabinet to nine after 18 ministers resigned for parliamentary elections (Reuter reports).

The key defence, foreign affairs and information posts were retained.

THE FORGOTTEN GENERATION.

Of the 1.1 million dwellings unfit for human habitation in the UK, half are inhabited by elderly people.

One household in seven is an old person living alone.

1800 old people were victims of violent crime.

Half a million have no living relatives.

1.5 million have no regular visitors.

Nearly 2 million depend entirely on supplementary benefit.

In 1985, 571 old people died in their homes from the cold.

These facts paint a grim picture of what it can mean to be old in Britain today. Help the Aged is dedicated to improving this situation by campaigning for better pensions and heating allowances. Funding Day Centres, Day Hospitals and Hospices. Providing emergency alarm systems and minibuses.

To find out more about our work, or if you would like to make a donation, please write to: John Mayo OBE, Director-General, Help the Aged, St. James's Walk, London EC1R 0BE.


Help the Aged
25TH ANNIVERSARY APPEAL
PATRON: HRH The Princess of Wales.

THE ARTS

Television
Stain of
darkness

In a programme which was not altogether easy to watch, *Horizon* (BBC2) traced the progress of AIDS from its juvenile life as an "obscure medical curiosity" to its present status as "one of the most lethal and perplexing diseases of modern times. The single most important point about this disease, however, is that it has generated anxiety and outrage out of all proportion to its actual danger to the national population."

Why this should be so is not difficult to guess and last night's programme confirmed that, although it is not a venereal disease it is predominantly associated in the public mind with sex — largely homosexual sex and always promiscuous sex. So for the prurient or the puritanical it carries a double stain of darkness, and the fact that it is associated with drug-taking only confirms its role as some "dirty" disease connected with the illicit gratification of anti-social desires.

Of course this is morbid nonsense and dangerous nonsense too, since it increases the anxieties of those who may already be fearful about, or ashamed of, their sexuality.

That is why a documentary such as this can be important. Its general tone was, as always in this series, dispassionate and this was also significant: the structure and incidence of the virus were examined in some detail, and in the process certain convenient myths were knocked on the head. It became clear, for example, that the disease may only be incidentally related to homosexual men, since by all accounts there are some 10 million sufferers, both male and female, in Central Africa — a region which can hardly be described as "gay". Another unsettling item of information to emerge from this account was the fact that the virus might also destroy the brain cells of those who have been infected.

And yet even within this careful exegesis there did creep in from time to time a certain apocalyptic strain, noticeable in some of the interviews with sufferers as well as in long-term projections of the disease. It is easy to understand why such material was included but, even so, it does encourage a sensationalism which is, under the circumstances, unnecessary. One can get that sensationalism in the popular newspapers, and anyone can speculate what is really needed is simple information.

Peter Ackroyd

Concerts
LS/Masson
Festival Hall
Bookspace

This was the London Sinfonietta's farewell to the GLC, but not one hopes, to the kind of informal music-making that the partnership of orchestra and local authority has made possible. There must be many people who would be wary of committing themselves to a two-hour concert of new and unknown music, but who were happy to drop in for a taste of this weekend of recitals and talks. Similarly there is a great deal of contemporary music that is not much helped by the rigidities of normal concert-going.

Among the events on offer were a performance of *Pierrot lunaire* by Linda Hirst and an evening focused on the music of György Kurtág, but my own tasting was of Sunday afternoon's programme including three first performances of works by Michael Rosenzweig. I had not been much impressed by the Symphony in One Movement of his that was played at the Barbican four months ago, but something of the piece was still lumbering about in my head and suggesting a musical mind at work. The evidence of two Solos for wind instruments, flute and bass clarinet, did not really take one any further, but the more recent Sinfonietta was a pleasant surprise. By contrast with the Symphony, it showed Rosenzweig fully able to write complex counter-

The leading theatre openings before Easter: Sheridan Morley, in New York, interviews Larry Kramer (right), author of *The Normal Heart*, the AIDS play starting at the Royal Court tonight; and Lynne Truss meets Lesley Mackie, star of the musical *Judy* at the Strand

Drama of rage and despair

Early last year two very different AIDS memoirs opened in New York, both dealing with what had already become the plague-panic of homosexual communities there and elsewhere. The one that opened on Broadway to generally more respectable and respectful reviews was William Hoffman's *As Is*, a 90-minute closet drama of extreme good taste which managed to pussy-foot around its awful subject so successfully that even the uptown Manhattan matrons remained unappalled.

Downtown at Joe Zapp's Public Theatre, and in stark contrast, was Larry Kramer's *The Normal Heart*, a great cry of dramatic and journalistic rage at the way the AIDS catastrophe has been handled by and in New York City. Where *As Is* names no names, *The Normal Heart* indicts Mayor Koch, President Reagan, the *New York Times* and sundry other public monuments for coming too little and too late to the rescue of a gay community that had already been decimated.

And intriguingly, it is *The Normal Heart* that seems to have captured audiences outside New York. It has already had 10 regional productions in America, another half-dozen are planned abroad. Barbara Streisand has bought the movie rights and intends not only to produce and direct but also play the doctor with hopes of Dustin Hoffman in the central role while tonight Larry Kramer's drama opens at the Royal Court with the American film star Martin Sheen making his London stage debut.

Taking its title from a poem

by W.H. Auden which also includes the line "all I have is a voice to undo the folded lid". *The Normal Heart* is at least in part autobiographical: Kramer himself is a fiftyish screenwriter and novelist who co-founded an organization called Gay Men's Health Crisis and, like his hero, was eventually forced out of it for shouting too loudly in his political and social rage against what he still sees as a deeply anti-gay establishment in the United States. Talking to him in his book-stacked apartment high above Washington Square, I wondered how the play had started, and when?

"In July 1981 I suddenly became aware of friends getting mysteriously ill on Fire Island, a gay beach community which seems now, like Fitzgerald's French Riviera, to belong to an altogether lost world. People I knew were suddenly dying and nobody knew how or why; what's more, nobody seemed to want to find out. They were almost literally burying their heads in the sand. I guess that was when gay politics began taking up more of my time than writing."

Born in Connecticut and educated in Washington, Kramer got his first job as a story editor with Columbia Pictures and came over to London with them for the whole of the 1960s.

"My father and brother were lawyers, but from the time I went to Yale I knew I wanted to write, so I went as a messenger boy to the William Morris agency at 20 dollars a week and from there Mike Frankovich took me over to

London with Columbia. I spent most of my time setting up the film of *Women in Love*, and when eventually the Columbia deal on that fell apart I left them and spent all my own money buying back the option and commissioning David Mercer to do the screenplay."

"What he delivered was altogether more Marxist than anything D.H. Lawrence ever considered, so at this point I had no screenplay, no director and all of my own money locked up in the option. I couldn't afford to get another writer so I then wrote the script myself, and after it had been turned down by Peter Brook and Jack Clayton and Stanley Kramer I took it to Ken Russell and the rest I guess you know."

Determined now to become a writer rather than a producer, Larry Kramer returned to New York in the early 1970s and wrote six or seven other screenplays that somehow never got in front of the cameras, as well as a best-selling gay novel called *Faggots*. It was at this point that he first became conscious of the deaths on Fire Island:

"And here we are, almost five years on, with everything still getting worse. When my play first opened in New York the *Times* there ran a disclaimer under the review, saying that they had never tried to ignore the AIDS issue, and certainly they are now doing some major reporting of it. But there is still a feeling here in America that senior politicians want the whole issue played as far down as possible. President Reagan has still not uttered the word AIDS in any public statement,

and work on the vaccine is still desperately under-funded. There's a conspiracy of silence, and when we were in rehearsal they had lawyers from the *New York Times* and the Mayor's office checking us out for libel. They say that Koch goes green whenever my play is mentioned, and in retaliation, when it first opened and he was asked about what he thought of it, he would simply tell everyone to go see *As Is* instead."

What makes Kramer's play so much more dangerous than *As Is* is the fact that he sees AIDS as a political rather than a medical or social issue: where Arthur Miller, when he wished to attack McCarthyism in *The Crucible*, went back three hundred years to find a historical parallel in the witch-hunts of Salem, Kramer says firmly in the present and indeed points across the back walls of his set the names and numbers of those who have died. He also draws uneasy and debatable comparisons between the treatment of gays in 1980s America and that of Jews in 1930s Europe:

"I want to make people cry. It's as simple as that. AIDS is the saddest thing I shall ever have to know in my lifetime, and this is a play about the need for us to stand up and be counted. It's a play about a whole community threatened by prejudice, by fear, by intolerance and by an increasing conservatism."

But, although it is in that sense a very American play, Kramer could not in fact have written it had he not found himself three summers ago at



the National Theatre, in London:

"I went one night to see David Hare's *A Map of the World* and it was only then that I realized how to write *The Normal Heart*. You have to remember that we have no tradition in America of contemporary political plays. Nobody ever mentions Reagan on Broadway, or the state of the nation; but here in David Hare's work I found actors on a stage actually talking about Mrs Thatcher, about the current state of government in England, and I realized how to do it."

"That doesn't mean *Normal Heart* has made things any better: the gay community in New York is still hopelessly divided politically, and they still can't get themselves towards any kind of coherent attitude to the outside and still

hostile world. Mayor Koch meanwhile goes on as if the problem doesn't exist, and money for research is still far too slow and limited. Not that things seem any better in England: I once marched in a Gay Pride rally there and it was pathetic. About three thousand people at most, and in the rain at that. Every summer here in New York we at least manage to get a hundred and fifty thousand people on the march for gay rights."

"*The Normal Heart* was written out of rage and resentment and despair, both at the way the non-gay world is treating AIDS as if it didn't really affect it, and at the way gays were refusing all the militant options. And the rage and resentment and despair are still there, if anything more deeply felt now than ever."

'I do have a lot of sympathy for Judy, though I'm sure she would have driven me crazy'



Getting the essence: Lesley Mackie as Judy Garland

"I am such a yack", apologises Lesley Mackie, before she explodes in another high-pitched raucous cackle. The tiny Scots actress has a lot to talk about at the moment.

Having spent the majority of her 12 years in the theatre playing "characterful jives" and "comedy maids" in provincial rep, she now finds herself at 33 starting in a West End musical — *Judy*, based on the life of Judy Garland, opening at the Strand tomorrow.

She and *Judy* look from the outside like a couple of swells, striding in arm-in-arm, flushed with the success of a run at Greenwich. In fact the history of the play is like one of those Garland-Rosenzweig showbiz fairy-tales. It was written by her actor-husband Terry Wale when they were both out of work in

1984. Leslie Mackie had by then done a couple of provincial productions of Pam Gems's *Piaf*; she thought she would never find another part so tailor-made for her. So her husband wrote a play about Judy Garland. "Judy's the only legend apart from Piaf who is five-feet-nothing."

The play passed more or less unnoticed in its first productions in Worcester and Bristol, but at Greenwich both it and Mackie got a good deal of attention. In fact the reviews from Greenwich mean that the Strand can proclaim her performance as "a tour de force" and describe her as "a blazing theatrical personality" even before the show opens. But while such press tributes may do wonders for the box-office, they must also put a huge strain on the star.

Her biggest worry is about the strain on her voice. She does 16 songs in the show, from the young Garland's film numbers like "Over the Rainbow" and "The Trolley Song" to the slow ballads of the later concert career.

"I have to go through from age 14 to 47 — and even Judy was never asked to do that. I don't impersonate her; there's no way you could do an impersonation to cover all those years. In the speaking I do go as near as I can to her real voice, but as far as the singing goes I thought it would be silly to copy, because she is inimitable."

"What I have done is copied her technique, like her breathing habits. She had asthma as a child, and in the songs she used to breathe in the most extraordinary places. She also

had an 'r' fault, and her vowels were quite unusual; she often sounded more English than American. I incorporate these things in the singing, and the idea is that people might think that reminds me of Judy Garland, not that somebody trying to copy her. What I set out to do was to get the essence of the woman."

"I do have a lot of sympathy for Judy, though I'm sure if I'd known her she would have driven me crazy. Even her friends had to walk away in the end, because she needed more love than anyone is capable of giving."

"Every time she came on stage she was proving she could fight back, proving she had made it — this time. There's no such thing as a happy legend."

Galleries

Academics denied

Studies of the
Nude
Marlborough Fine
Art

John Bellamy
Fischer Fine Art

John Bellamy:
New Portraits
National Portrait
Gallery

Studies of the Nude could be seen as propaganda for British art schools, which for all their faults are admired throughout the world. William Packer in his introduction quotes Pope: "Know then thyself, presume not God to scan; the proper study of mankind is Man." And he says was preached to him during his life classes. However, it is not the academic strictures of Uglow, Coldstream and the Slade that shine at Marlborough.

In the illustrious company he is keeping, Uglow's dry formulas are shown up for what they are, the wavings of the old school in the public's face. The much-publicized *Standing Nude*, *Blue Dress* 11 looks like a student's study when seen alongside Auerbach's power, Bacon's startling new yellow painting and Brett Whiteley's sensual exploitation in the line of an odalisque. Once the visitor has been faced by a giant Moore, *Draped Reclining Mother and Baby*, and a small drawing, *Half Figure of a Woman*, that possesses the same fullness of flesh, presence and dignity, he is in no mood even to glance at Uglow. The other painters' straightforward delight in the subject-matter pulls the eyes away. It seems no accident that the idea for the show originally came from Francis Bacon, who never attended art school.

The Marlborough exhibition (until May 2) does not convey the full wealth of British art. It was never intended to do so. However, in

the pursuit of its theme, many of the country's most established painters demonstrate some of their persevering qualities. There are examples of Lucian Freud's and John Davies's unyielding scrutiny. Kitaj and Hockney give displays of their draughtsmanship. Howard Hodgkin records an occasion, *In a bedroom*, in his inimitable fashion. There are some pleasant surprises. John Piper has contributed compelling drawings of women in chalk, ink and watercolour, Richard Hamilton's *Nude 1954* plays with our vision and Pasmore's *The Studio of Ingres*, which used to belong to Kenneth Clark, is included.

Auerbach's three works, with their sheer joy of paint, power of emotion and ambiguity, pave the way for the follow-up exhibition of younger artists the gallery are planning. If they are as generous in the inclusion of non-gallery artists as they have been in the first part, a second such show could prove extremely important. One Scottish painter who should be included is John Bellamy.

Bellamy is a painter's painter. It is therefore ironic that the work of his that has achieved most publicity is Ian Botham's portrait. It is a bold icon of one of England's sporting heroes (or scapegoats), but it does not give any indication of the sensitive depictions of Bellamy's family and friends that make up the exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery (until May 18) or indeed his studio works, some of which can be seen at Fischer (until Thursday). Moreover the cricketer is portrayed in the same sickly ways of Bellamy's other recent works, many of which are concerned with sickness and the balance of mind. This reflects the painter's own troubled life. In the last two years he has made an extensive trip to Australia, his second marriage has broken up, his second wife has died and he himself contracted a near-fatal illness.

Charon's Boat, with its pyramid of singing corpses, leaves the viewer in no doubts about the direction of Bellamy's thoughts. *Spes Maris*



Bellamy's Patrick Caulfield and John Hayland, with the painter confronting us in the form of Van Gogh

and *Only an emu passing by* are both the dreams of a sick man. In the latter the artist's palette makes the most of a simple puppet-theatre construction. Colour, rough strokes and the succession of staring emu eyes evoke the fever within the protruding brow of the mummified figure.

The artist has been accused of being imprecise with his imagery, of not tying down the symbols culled from his life and particularly the fishing village of Port Seton, his birthplace, but the pictorial success of his compositions denies this. They are remarkably cohesive; they invariably disturb.

Robin Gibson, keeper of 20th-century art at the National Portrait Gallery, believes that Bellamy's latest works, executed after the renewal of his relationship with his first wife, display a new lease of life. Certainly over the years some of his most magnificent portraits have been of Helen. An oil of her last June is overflowing with references to the past, yet is bound together by an arc of light emanating from an old fishing boat. A watercolour of her last May has the grandeur and pose of Mantegna. He uses the old and modern masters freely. Alan Davies is presented almost as part of one of his paintings. David Brown, who curated the St Ives show at the Tate, is placed in the Cornish harbour as rendered by Christopher Wood. The painter confronts

us over Patrick Caulfield's and John Hayland's shoulders in the form of Van Gogh himself. He is never afraid to take an old image and remake it, which is ultimately all that painters can do.

The Edinburgh-trained Bellamy has not quite enjoyed the overnight success of the neighbouring "Glasgow Boys". The pictures in the National Portrait Gallery testify to the fact that he has been a known and well-respected figure in the art world for many years. He has been a remarkably consistent painter. In 1966 the fisherman-painter, with his son on his knee and brush in hand, glares out at the world to claim his place as a great artist.

The message is continually repeated, as *Self-Portrait with Accordion* (1974) at Fischer confirms. The Museum of Modern Art in Scotland are giving Bellamy a major retrospective later this year, which will tour down to the Serpentine. British galleries are beginning to realize the wealth of artists that this country possesses, but we need more exhibitions like those currently at Fischer, the National Portrait Gallery and Marlborough. We must be looking to promote these artists abroad. It would be a tragedy if the rest of the world took the "Glasgow Boys", who are little more than the tail-end of the New Wave, as representative of what is happening in Britain.

Alistair Hicks

Opera
The old
menace
remains

Don Giovanni
Nancy

The citizens of Nancy must feel well acquainted with Ruggiero Raimondi's Don Giovanni. In recent weeks he has stalked across the screen of the local cinema in Joseph Losey's celluloid version and appeared in the flesh in the town's handsome Opera-Théâtre. But here the long-celebrated portrayal of a single character has spilled over into an all-embracing view of the whole opera: Raimondi not only sings the title-role, but directs Nancy's new *Don Giovanni* as well.

Fears that the burden of capturing the team might impair the baritone's individual star-quality can be quickly dispelled. His Giovanni may no longer pass for 22, but the physical and vocal menace inherent in his performance is undiminished. One important aspect, especially in a small house like Nancy's, is its old-fashioned theatricality. Advancing to the footlights, Raimondi hurled the Champagne Aria at the audience with Rabelaisian vigour. (The resident orchestra, which played acceptably elsewhere, never had a hope of matching the singer for pace or power here.) He made his escape at Act I's conclusion through the auditorium, a brazen figure in black leather. His confrontation with John Truzter's Commendatore in the finale was a splendidly sustained vocal slogging-match.

These were obvious high points, but Raimondi's characterization also had its subtleties: his devastatingly effective put-down of Ottavio and Masetto, simply by addressing them without ever taking their eyes off their respective women; the dangerous jokiness of his relationship with Leporello; the honeyed tones of his seduction of Zerlina; or the contrasting hint of barely-suppressed brutality in his dealings with Elvira.

Raimondi's Giovanni may remain enthralling; his *Giovanni* is more problematic. On the plus side is its vivid, physically extrovert quality, well complemented by Carlo Tommasi's realistic-looking sets: giant blocks of mock-masonry that revolved and slid noiselessly into an ambitious series of 18th-century townscapes. Producer and director combined best, perhaps, in the final scene. The supper room (replete with real minstrels in galleries) suddenly spun away as the Commendatore entered, and we were back in the graveyard. Then, after Giovanni's demise, the slabs swung inward again, leaving Leporello and Elvira in the epilogue to claw pathetically at a massive stone wall.

In other important ways, though, Raimondi's ideas seemed flawed from the start, when his Giovanni — neither masked nor in flight from Donna Anna (indeed the two embraced passionately after their first exchange) — killed the Commendatore in full view of the lady. Perhaps this only makes explicit what the opera hints at: that Anna's later desire for revenge hides her own guilt about her father's death. But by removing an air of ambiguity at the outset Raimondi had, one felt, diminished the opera's drama.

That said, it did open the way for Karen Huffstodt, replete with flaming red wig, to turn the troubled Anna into a tragic figure of Lady Macbeth dimensions. Her big voice, inclined to scoop and slide, seemed far from ideal for the coloratura of "Non mi dir", but elsewhere her cultured legato was intensely expressive. She clearly has a big future, though possibly not in Mozart.

This high-voltage Anna did rather usurp emotional territory traditionally occupied by Elvira, making Mariette Kemmer's rather cool interpretation appear all the more peripheral to the opera's main thrust, despite some excellent focused singing in "Mi tradi". But Zehava Gal's first (no need to allot a separate facial expression to each word of "La ci darem", surely), flowered later, notably in "Batti, batti" which was ravishingly sung from a most unliberated posture.

Carlos Chausson rounded out an early Leporello satisfactorily after an unsuitably demure Catalogue Aria, but Jérôme Prêtre's Ottavio and Jean-Marie Frémère's Masetto both seemed wooden in this production's context. It was a pity, too, that Marc Soustrot's seductress lacked the personality to match the robust goings-on on stage, or even to hold the ensembles steady.

Richard Morrison

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Like mother, like daughter?

Feminism is often blamed for the erosion of the traditional family. In the first of a two-part series, Bel Mooney looks at how the modern woman sees her role

*A son is your son 'til he takes a wife.
A daughter's your daughter the rest of her life.*

The traditional saying encapsulates within its neat, balanced structure a whole unbalanced world of expectation. Mothers produce sons to be unlike themselves, to go out and take their places in the world. They produce girls as mirror images of themselves, binding them emotionally for ever... or so the theory goes.

Warm lady baking bread in the farmhouse kitchen watched by daughters eager to learn; Victorian "angel in the house" breeding girls to be equally passive and decorous, fit to marry men of position. Certainly it is hard to abandon past images. The relationship between mothers and daughters is recognized as establishing patterns of attitude and behaviour which influence generation after generation — even if at some point one daughter rebels.

It was Freud who introduced us to the notion that the differences between the sexes arise from the fact that (for most people) the first most important person in each childhood is a woman. What do girls learn from their mothers? Why, to be mothers, of course.

And so the thinking still goes, despite 10 years of trumpeted equality under the law. Consider: in 1956 Simone de Beauvoir's *The Second Sex* went into its second printing, and when *McCall's* magazine ran an article about unhappy wives and mothers, editors were amazed at the response; by 1966 *The Feminine Mystique* by Betty Friedan was selling well in paperback here, and

the Women's Movement had begun in America; by 1976, with *The Female Eunuch* already a classic, we had not only a Sex Discrimination Act and Equal Opportunities Commission, but the first woman leader of a political party.

Yet in 1986, when the increase in reported rapes shocks the nation, it is quickly whispered abroad that this is because feminism has made women abandon their traditional virtues, and poor mothers mean violent and disruptive boy children.

The hand that rocks the cradle is the hand that rules the world, so it must follow that if the world shows signs of disease it is the fault of that first — mother's — hand. At the beginning of the sixties Betty Friedan wrote that mothers would always take the blame — so great is their perceived burden of responsibility.

Yet it is still sought. Clare Rayner's huge postbag convinces her that "the desire to be a married lady with children is constant". Friedan saw the process as inevitable: "... it is still easier for a woman... to live through her husband and children than to make a road of her own in the world. For she is the daughter of that same mother who made it so hard for a girl... to grow up."

De Beauvoir described the atavistic collusion: "My mother's whole education and upbringing had convinced her that for a woman the greatest thing was to become the mother of a family. She couldn't play that part unless I played the dutiful daughter." Of course few mothers want to break the mum-daughter-mum chain.



Sharing motherhood: Rose Massey and her adopted daughter Jackie



Generation gap: Caroline and Alice Scott, amused by their differences



'I think it is odd not wanting to have children'

Jackie Massey typifies the traditional attitude to motherhood — something of which she is proud. In 1958, at the age of 17, she gave birth to Daniel, after a stable relationship with her boyfriend Paul since she was 15. He is 10 years older than her, and works as a painter and decorator. They talk of marriage but Jackie sees no hurry.

On the surface, that marks her as a member of a more liberated generation; such ease of choice would not have been dreamt of when her mother, Rose, was 18. Still, Jackie's expectations and aspirations exactly mirror her mother's, and the two women share a particular kind of female closeness. Each day Jackie brings the baby to her mother's small South London flat.

Rose was one of a large family, and escaped from her strict Catholic girlhood by coming to England and quickly marrying Pete, a widower with a young family. "I'd always loved babies, and was always looking after them. Not so much dolls, I preferred the real thing! Always mothering," Rose, with her ready-made family, also wanted children of her own. When it proved impossible, she adopted Jackie. "That's why I always think it's so uncanny, how like me she is."

Despite her religion, Rose was "delighted" when Jackie told her she was pregnant. "I think I couldn't wait for the day when she'd have babies. It would be like having her all over again." Deep down I knew she'd have babies early. Of course Pete was upset at first because he wanted bigger and better things for her, but now he's happy.

And what did Jackie want? "Well, when I was a little girl I always played with loads of dolls. If I thought of a job it was a nursery nurse — always something with babies. I couldn't wait to have one of my own. I know you get some

women who don't want babies, but to me it's odd." As for the son who toddles round the tiny dining room, adored by his mother and grandmother, Jackie confesses that he's tough, but she wants to "smother him, I suppose".

Girls like Jackie Massey shrug all distant notions of sexual equality aside as nothing to do with them. Yet Rose and Jackie have, in a curious way, their own matriarchal power: traditional and beyond the politics of housework. Much feminist literature ignores this; for example, two collections of writings (*No Turning Back* and *Sweeping Statements*) have selections on everything from male violence to work — but none called *Motherhood*. It is as if the reality of women's inherited needs is too complex.

More recently, the "Earth-mother" myth has seen a revival, and the mother-daughter relationship celebrated. One American writer, Judith Arcana, asserts boldly: "Mothers socialize their daughters into the narrow role of wife-mother; in frustration daughters reject their mothers..." Such drama ignores the fact that many daughters want so to be "socialized".



'Instead of choices, you must now have a career'

Such a mother is Caroline Scott. Her daughter, Alice, is 17 and a pupil at Queen's College, the Harley Street girls' public school. Caroline was frustrated in her ambition to go to university and is disappointed that Alice has rejected her own chance. Caroline, divorced when Alice was six, has always worked as a secretary and believes in most liberal feminist ideas: Alice wants a white wedding, and rejects them. The two seem amicably amused by their differences. Mrs Scott says that, because the horizons were much narrower when she was a girl, she always assumed she would get married and have children. Which seems

more important in her image, at nation, marriage or a job? "Marriage. I feel I would put a lot into it... you know, each, in the summer I had this really romantic picture of me sitting in a big garden and my husband coming home from his work... but now you aren't really allowed to say that! Oh no — you must think of a career. I think it's bad that you're made to feel guilty for wanting to be a wife and bid mother."

"It's really backfired, this feminism, so that instead of having choices, you're supposed to want an independent career. I get really angry and find myself veering in the opposite direction, just to be different!... I think that everybody still thinks that a woman should look after the child, and the man have a job. I think that lots of girls of my generation have that idea, whereas it's the older women who don't. I know I should want to look after my own children, I would never expect my husband to give up his job."

Alice admits that she reaps the benefits of change. For instance, she would insist that her husband help with the children — although, like her own mother, she would like help. She would assume that help, and object if it were not given. And as for a daughter of her own... "I'd want her to know that an education is important, so she won't just have to rely on getting married." Like her own mother, in fact? "Well, yes."

And what if Alice's daughter rejected her ideas, and opted for feminist celibacy? "It would shock me, because I'm not like that. Because I'd wanted children. But I wouldn't push her. I'd tell her it's possible to be a mother, and have her views. But I wouldn't argue with her, because honestly, my mother has never said to me, 'You must think like me'. So I wouldn't either."

Like mother, like daughter, despite the differences.

TOMORROW

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Pathways through the maze of power

The division of authority between minister and civil servant is in theory finely drawn. In practice, as Colin Hughes reports in the second part of his series, it is far from clear

Civil servants live in a twilight zone, the silhouettes of their power and status appearing behind a veil of anonymity. The upside they inhabit is constant-shifting. Governments come and go, sometimes throwing up a new earthwork, sometimes relying on the old. Some observers, looking today at the aerial photographs, detect traces of a terrain which has been the course of Britain's rearmament. On one day last week, the main London passport office walked out in a row over a technology: the Government asked down on GCHQ staff who were rejoining unions; and Clive Posing published a book depicting Whitehall as a sorry tale of greed and farce.

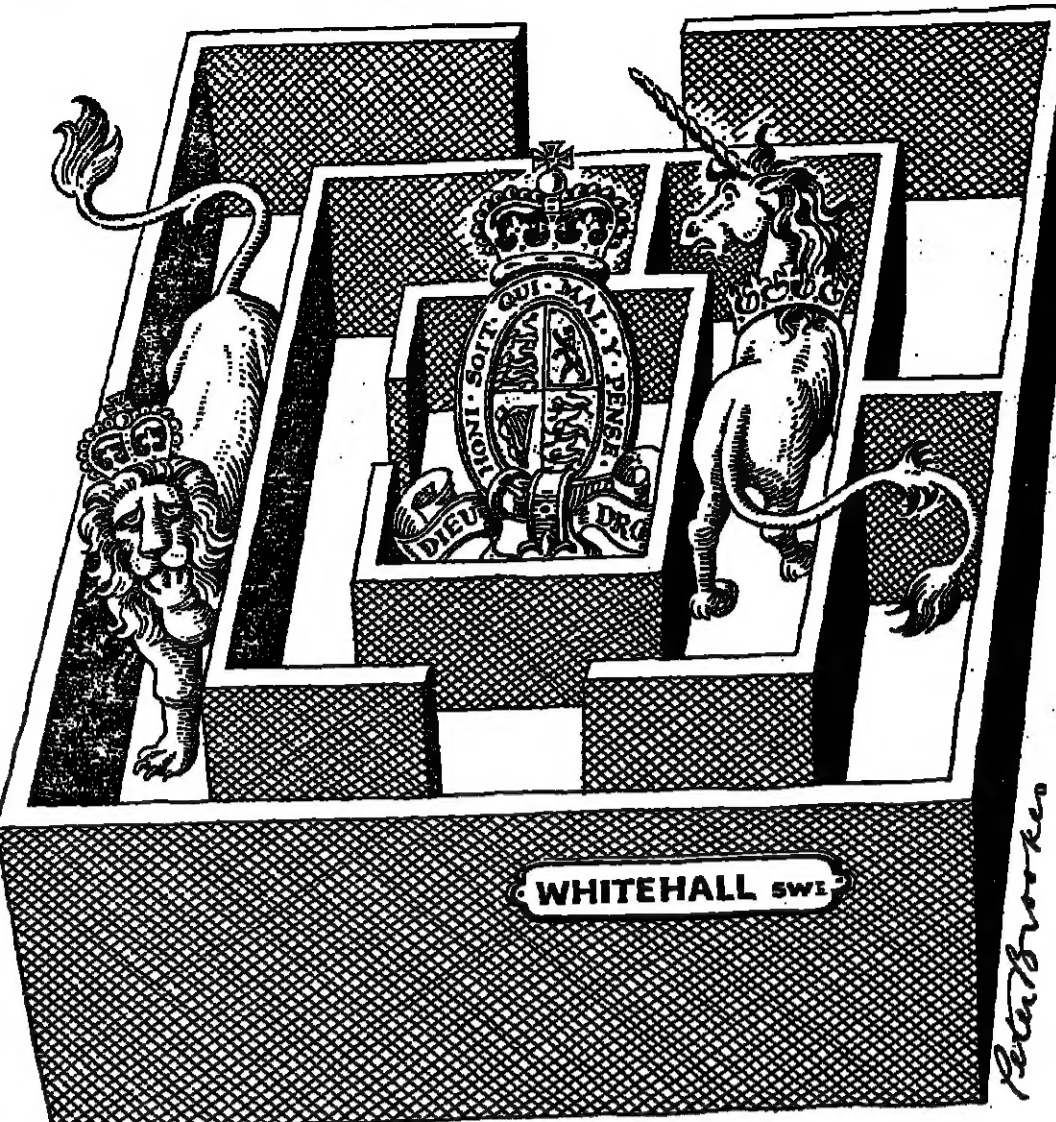
Although the lines of power and accountability between officials and ministers are well known in

ambiguities of authority can lead to acute embarrassment. In principle, civil servants are the estate managers who stay on, while their landlords chop and change according to the electorate's whim. In fact, once in power, most ministers are persuaded by Whitehall's appeals for "reality". As Sir Patrick Nairne, former Permanent Secretary at the Department of Health and Social Security, says: "When they have a chance to know what the facts are, they sometimes think the existing plans are exactly what they want."

The Civil Service knows the life of the land, and is far better able to study the implication of opposition policy than the political parties themselves. Mandarins say they draw their ministers' attention to their own manifesto pledges more often than they suffer abuse for trying to thwart ministers' aims. Recently, for example, civil servants had to give firm reminders to the Scottish Secretary Malcolm Rifkind and the Agriculture Secretary Michael Jopling of the government's policy to privatise lands owned by the Forestry Commission. The departmental ministers seemed to have hoped this had been forgotten.

William Plowden, a former civil servant who is now director of the Royal Institute of Public Administration, argues that: "The doctrine of ministerial responsibility for departmental acts no longer fits the facts of governmental life at the end of the twentieth century. Ministers cannot know all that is going on in their departments and, when things go wrong, they usually do not resign."

The last time a minister resigned over a civil servant's error was in 1954, over the Crichel Down affair. More recently James Prior, then Northern Ireland Secretary, stayed after the Maze breakout, while the prison governor resigned. But nowhere do the rules explain that civil servants are accountable for administrative



mistakes, and ministers for policy failure. John Ward, general secretary of the First Division Association, asks: "Do officials now carry the can for the mistakes of their ministers?"

The traditional rules were restated in classic Whitehall form last year by Sir Robert Armstrong. The core of the code was punchy and unequivocal: "The Civil Service as such has no constitutional personality or responsibility separate from the duly elected government of the day." The document was intended, in Sir Robert's words, to "steady nerves" after the Posing trial; it has in fact spurred the backbench Select Committee

on the Civil Service to launch a lengthy inquiry, to report this June.

The civil servant's life is sometimes portrayed as a simplistic battle between struggling Cabinets and scheming mandarins. The reality is more complex. Officials handling negotiations with the Channel Tunnel contract attempted to ignore the Prime Minister's insistence that proposals should include a road link because, in the words of one representative, "they thought the idea was plain barmy".

When Mrs Thatcher ordered that each company make personal

presentations to her at 10 Downing Street the Civil Service began to argue over the timing of the three shows. By the time the process was over it was clearly too late to work the road link into the best option. Any lobbyist who had relied on the fact that the Prime Minister supported his client would have been sorely disappointed.

Power shifts among politicians are quickly spotted by Whitehall. Civil Service drafts of the Green Paper on copyright originally contained a clause imposing a levy on blank cassette tapes, but Lord Britton ensured it was deleted before publication. Since Britton's

resignation, Norman Tebbit and the civil servants have ensured that, when the White Paper is published in April, the clause will have disappeared.

Organization-chart signposts often lead down empty alleyways. Permanent secretaries frequently have little more control over branches headed by deputy secretaries, or units mastered by under-secretaries, than the chance to correct spelling in papers before they get to the minister.

Sir David Hancock, head of the Department of Education and Science, was regarded as a star at his home in the Treasury, but has found it hard to gain control from overburdened and frustrated deputy secretaries. Half the problem lies with Sir Keith Joseph's failure to override officials. Deputy secretaries like Clive Savile, running the highest education branch, are caught between bodies like the University Grants Committee and the deep blue pool of right-wing backbench pressure.

Mrs Thatcher's preference for "does" above thinkers has made recent permanent secretary appointments controversial. Although the club is still marked by Oxbridge career men who have spent their entire working lives in the insulated Whitehall world, the majority are now models of post-war meritocracy.

The most astute use fluid relations to their unit's advantage. Terence Heiser, appointed to the top job at the Department of Environment, attended school in the East End of London. He rose from the humblest clerical ranks, a prime example of the new "goal-orientated" mandarin, who caught the Prime Minister's eye as deputy secretary in charge of local government finance.

Peter Owen, who has replaced him as Deputy Secretary, is a redbrick university Merseyside who has won respect from pressure groups by arguing back at them in meetings.

Style and reputation count as much as sympathetic chemistry. It was assumed inside the Department of Employment that Donald Derr, who had been in charge of the pay policy branch as deputy secretary for eight years, would get the top job when it fell vacant. But he was passed over after clashing with the Prime Minister, who

appointed another activist, Michael Quinlan, instead. Had Derr stayed, his cold relations with Number 10 would have left him on the sidelines, and he retired early to become director of the Policy Studies Institute. Quinlan has started the Downing Street policy unit, which prides itself on being able to pre-empt the cumbersome bureaucracy with quick policy drafts, by instructing his staff to research and write papers literally overnight.

The career advance of Nick Monk, a leading Deputy Secretary in the Treasury, is blocked by his critical view of the Government's economic policy, while Sir Peter Middleton's reputed sympathy was him the Treasury Permanent Secretaryship, second only to the Cabinet Secretary in Whitehall status and, along with Admiral Sir John Fieldhouse as the Minister of Defence, the only civil servant position to be paid the top salary of £70,000.

Throughout the Civil Service there have been apprentices of change. But Whitehall is still dominated by civil servants who entered the system almost straight from university and expect to remain until they retire. The vestige of private sector styles

Do officials now carry the can for their ministers?

dommed in recent years is superficial. Last year Geoffrey Fry, in his book *The Changing Civil Service*, pointed out: "The Civil Service has little choice about wearing the currently fashionable styles, but much the same clothes remain underneath."

Recent attempts to bring administrators in from outside have ended in failure. Montagu Aldrich, brought in as chief executive of the Property Services Agency when corrupt staff were being weeded out, was obliged to leave after a short stay. His private sector approach fell flat and he was frozen out by career civil servants. Real change in the terrain is gradual and long-term. A widening generation gap is causing concern among those at the top of the pyramid. The new breed of young civil servants have no abstract commitment to a prestige public service ethic. For them it is much like any other job.

The Management and Personnel Office's principle that a "career Civil Service" means "a staffing policy based primarily on recruiting people as they leave the education system, and retaining them in the service until they retire", is being irresistibly undermined. Wider social forces of take-it-or-leave-it individualism, along with demands for technocrats who are both managerially experienced and specialist-trained, make that pattern look as outdated as medieval open fields.

TOMORROW

How will Whitehall absorb the political shocks in store?

Ministers can't know all that goes on in their departments

Using a textbook to find our way around the Civil Service could be like finding your way round London on foot with a Tube map. That is an entire industry has recently grown up to help companies d campaigners penetrate Whitehall's inner sanctum. Andrew Gifford used to be an adviser to David Steel. At the signing of Mrs Thatcher's first he joined fellow ex-advisers Edward Heath and James Lagham to guide clients through a shifting maze. He found "a lot of public relations companies could have a minister and permanent secretary in for lunch once a year and feel that was sufficient".

Decisions are frequently made in the large grey areas where civil servants act on their own initiative, neither informing nor consulting their ministers. A former London-based diplomat points out that, if he had received a telephone call at 5 am from the British official at the United Nations asking how he should behave in the next five minutes, he would have been crucified if he'd woken a minister who only went to bed at 2 am after a late evening vote. "I would tell him to wait, and report it to the minister later in the day."

Good officials are supposed to know the minister's mind better than their own. But, as the Crichel Down affair illustrates, the

ARMSTRONG, THE ARCH-MANDARIN

Sir Robert Armstrong is the real-life Sir Humphrey - Secretary to the Cabinet, Prime Minister's confidant, arch-mandarin - who has entered the limelight over Westland, Posing, GCHQ, and wielded growing influence since his appointment five years ago.

He wears a double crown: he is also Head of the Home Civil Service, a combination of jobs that critics say sits uneasily on one pair of shoulders. (He says the latter post is largely titular).

If anyone can resolve the apparent contradiction of simultaneously acting as Mrs Thatcher's right-hand man and the senior representative of the Civil Service, he can. Even critics concede his brilliance in the traditional mandarin skills.



Sir Robert: power broker

Clive Posing's probably jaundiced view is that Armstrong is "the eminence grise of British government... the supreme manipulator and fixer". But he has survived a long tight-rope walk without falling off. His attempted compromise back-down over GCHQ was overridden by Mrs Thatcher, yet he has emerged from the Westland mire as prime defender of her integrity.

A SECURE JOB WITH PROSPECTS

See Partridge was attracted to a career in the Civil Service by its prospects of secure, long-term employment and the opportunities it offered for promotion. Eighteen years later she has advanced from an £8-a-week clerical assistant to £11,000-a-year higher executive officer in the Department of Trade and Industry's north-west regional office.

Mrs Partridge, aged 37, is the office manager for the department based in Manchester, but her wide-ranging responsibilities also cover Whitehall's outposts for the department in Liverpool and Bootle. In total there are 220 staff and she oversees the spending of the £2.7 million north-west annual budget.

The Civil Service, she

'The image may be dull, but the reality isn't'

says, is much changed since she arrived. "The service is smaller now, it has been streamlined. When the cut-backs were announced morale in the service was low. But now they have happened the morale is going up again."

"When I first came into the service people had a high regard for it and for civil servants. But we did go down in the public opinion. It happened around five years ago. It was a time when more people were becoming unemployed and going to the

Department of Health and Social Security and not getting immediately what they thought they were entitled to."

Mrs Partridge has responsibilities that in the private sector would probably earn her more money, but she is satisfied with her lot. "The image may be dull, but the reality is far from that. The Civil Service still offers secure employment and good opportunities for promotion in return for hard work. It is especially good for women because of its equal opportunities and you don't always get that in industry even today."

She hopes to gain further promotion to senior executive officer rank but accepts that that will probably require a move to London.

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The dotty dictionaries

J.L. Carr, who runs an eccentric publishing house from his spare bedroom, celebrates 21 years in business

dislike of taking themselves off.

Or this, in his *Dictionary of Pretences, Parsons, Vergers, Wardens, Sidesmen & Preachers, Sunday School teachers, Hermits, Ecclesiastical Flower Arrangers, Fifth Monarchy Men and False Prophets*: "Charles Waterton of Walton Hall, Essex, churchwarden c. 1862, was said to be able to scratch his neck with his big toe and customarily, while entertaining church dignitaries, to dine beneath the table, the while growling and snapping at guests' ankles."

Most of the 87 titles, which now have a combined sale of 500,000 copies via 180 booksellers, are highly selective reprints of the standard poets. Carr believes that 16 pages of poetry on the trot is quite enough for anyone. Some are

printed upside down and back to front, the idea being that the second division poets, having gone through the greats, merit just eight pages. Hence Rupert Brooke is laid end to end with Wilfred Owen, each commanding their own front cover and meeting in the centre fold.

Annual sales are now 53,000, each volume selling for 40p. Morality colours the business: "My father was a Methodist local preacher, and this inhibits me from publishing sex literature which everyone says sells well. I had deep heart-searching with the title of my *Dictionary of English Queens, Kings' Wives, Celebrated Paramours, Handfast Spouses and Royal Change-lings*."

"If I could have brought myself to have inserted concubines, it would have sold several more thousand copies. Handfast Spouse means the same thing, but most people believe her to be a plain cook."

Selling, says Carr, has been the hardest bit. When he embarked on the sales slog, he was so naïve that his first visit was to a Dunchurch sweetshop. The woman behind the counter was so astonished at being offered the works of John Milton, that she paid him straight from the till.

"Would I advise anyone to set up as a publisher? It is quite impossible to answer. So many things enter into it - temperament, family, business sense, health. The best way is to find yourself a publisher without meaning to be: it saves no end of anguish. For instance, I took it up because John Clare's great-grandson, a retired Co-op milkman, lives two or three doors down the road. But that is another story."

Alan Franks

Loneliness is just one problem

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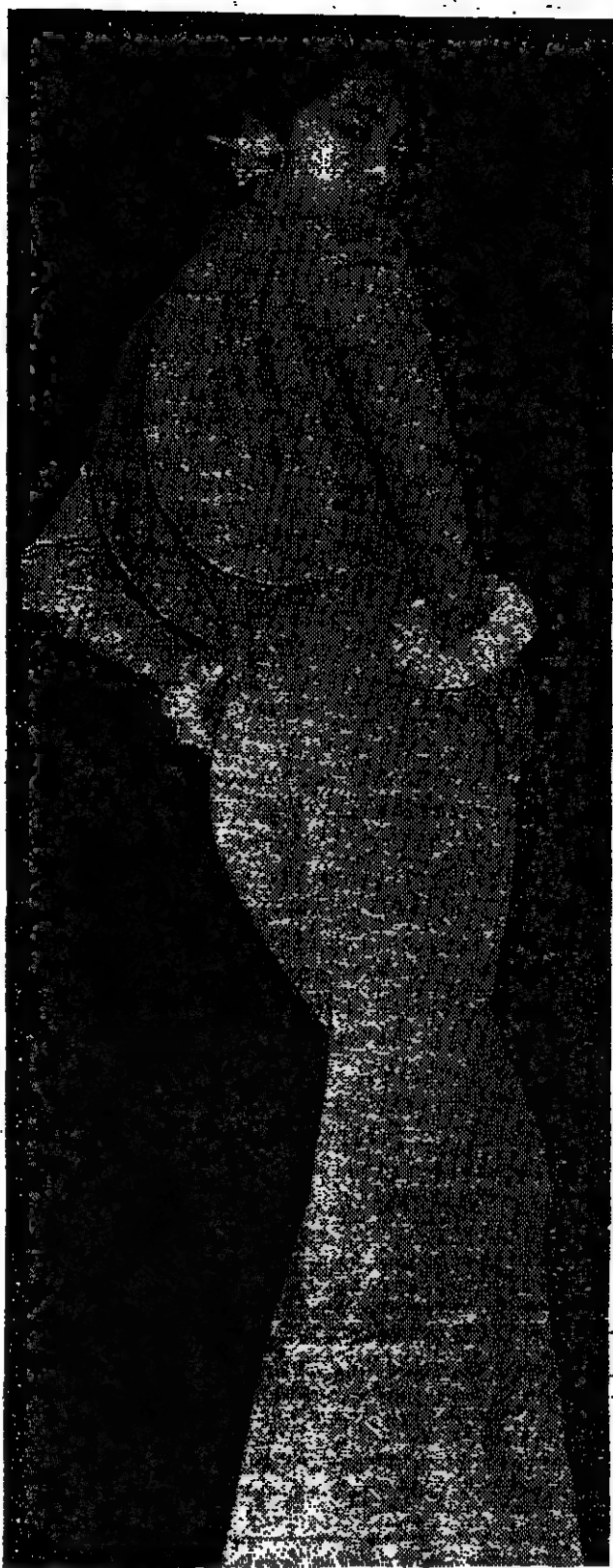
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SWING and CLING



INTERNATIONAL COLLECTIONS

PARIS

The buzz word in Paris is 'cohabitation'. It expresses, with a risqué ring, the facts of French political life. And while the Left is bedding down with the Right, fashion is also swinging between conservative and radical chic.

A return to tailoring and to the roots of French couture is giving us a seductive Paris season. But streetwise designers strike a harsher note with sober colours, strict lines and a Marxist message.

Swing and cling is the fashion story. A ballet theme brings puffball skirts, peplums that swirl like a tutu, full-skirted riding coats and anything — from a cape back to a fluted hem — that can give us a runway whirl.

Against the swing are figure-hugging jersey and finely-seamed flannel, both favourite fabrics for the tubular dresses that are a star garment of the season.

The two trends cohabited perfectly in Claude Montana's collection, where perky jackets, impeccably cut in blonde cashmere, swung out like Baby Doll nighties over skinny suede trousers. This was a strong silhouette to match the big-shouldered outline Montana gave to the fashion world exactly ten years ago. He has now softened those shoulders on his new full-skirted coat.

Montana's attention to detail remains exceptional: wool jacquard embroidery on forest green suede (a Paris colour), gauntlets cuffed as falcon's wings and ice crystal beading.

Müglar played it cool — if that is the word to describe his curvaceous ice maidens, their bodies sculpted in pastel tailoring, snowflakes worked in relief on their sweaters or crystal studding their vanilla chamotte leather suits.

All this was fun, and part of a fashion spectacular that included a lunar landscape set, a team of huskies, commissar dresses draped like the Russian flag, and a swan lake of tutus.

Behind it all were convincing dresses, wide-shouldered, narrow in the skirt, the line softened with asymmetric drapes and peplums. Shaped Louis heels for shoes and boots brought a new look.

Gaultier went for an A-line silhouette that looked new, young and fresh. He also produced the most original show, sending his garments out singly down a snaking catwalk that led to scaffolding. There the 100 models posed on turntables, swung their legs and showed off Gaultier's constructivist chic. For his most street-conscious of designers has taken the Marxist philosophies of disaffected youth, and worked it into clothes cut in sombre military colours — black, bottle green and blood red, splashed with Cyrillic lettering.

Constricted tailoring was all in the upper part of the body, with the bar of the A drawn across the thighs. Below that, skirt hems were edged with fur, stitched into a balloon kilt of pleats or made in wet suit fabric to stand away at the knees.

The newly-restored Louvre courtyard was the setting for the main fashion shows. The young designers showed under the vault of the Beaux Arts. They back tailoring and the art of couture cutting, with both Doby Broda and Prémontville Dewarin shaping tailored suits and dresses. Their muse is the Chanel of Karl Lagerfeld, who yesterday morning further updated the Chanel classics, tucking the tweed suit in at the waist or putting a swingy three-quarter jacket over a long skinny skirt. Houndstooth is the bold new tweed; lace is used for shapely evening sheaths.

Karl Lagerfeld had already produced his best collection so far, under his own label, using the swing and cling theme for fluid tailoring and for a new skirt bias-cut from the calf.

The best of the shows have shown that couture elegance and body-conscious sexiness can cohabit in Paris fashion. King of the curves Azzedine Alaïa and king of couture Yves Saint Laurent, have yet to show.



Above: Thierry Mugler's twirling tutu. His ballerina silhouette brought small waists and peplums over narrow skirts and trousers. The same shape grows down to make the long swirling riding coat that is a Paris favourite. Above left: Claude Montana's cling and swing on a skinny grey jersey tube flaring into a cape back. The swingy top also made a short and wide jacket shape for Montana. Top right: Chanel seaming. Twin tucks nip the waist of Lagerfeld's new suit with a slim on-the-knee skirt. His revamp of Chanel revitalises couture tailoring and dog tooth tweed, which are seen all over Paris. Right: Gaultier's constructivist chic. The fitted tunic over a flared skirt makes an A-line silhouette and eases the strict line. Russian letters band the sleeves

Photographs by Harry Kerr



Left: Comme des Garçons's pebble and check pinafore dress. Right: Yohji Yamamoto's slim-line tailoring and bandage-wrapped head

Creative cutting triumphed at Comme des Garçons. The pinafore was the newest shape, cut like an elongated tabard and played out on a theme of tweedy checks in a palette of black and white, navy and cream. Jersey, including a stiff foam-backed version, was the most important fabric. Designer Rei Kawakubo replaced her

JAPANESE

martial music with swing. Yohji Yamamoto bandaged his models' heads, but this looked sculptural rather than threatening — and so did the clothes. Yohji took a playful look at couture tailoring. Fitted jackets had castellated hems puffed up as balloon

peplums. The rest of the lines were slim, with a witty nod to Chanel in checked tweed.

While the rest of Paris went for sombre colours spiced with red, green and icy pastels, Issey Miyake went wild over colour: vivid mixes of apricot, violet and black, for knits that were held in shape with suspender clips.



TUTU MUCH

Karl Lagerfeld has found a new role model. The designer now sees himself as the Sun King.

By the standards of men's fragrance launches, Lagerfeld's take-over of Versailles was impressive. Firstly there was the sight of Karl flanked on one side by Danielle Mitterrand and on the other by a pregnant Princess Caroline of Monaco.

The cavorting in tutus by the Monte Carlo ballet in the rococo gem of the Versailles theatre was a nice touch, for Karl's witty embroideries of the season are based on ballerinas. It was clever to out-tweak the Galerie des Glaces by the firework show on the lawn outside. The tour through Marie Antoinette's bedroom was a bonus. And the pyramid of lobsters stacked up to the ceiling looked good by the light of two thousand white candles.

Karl stayed up all night so as to be fresh for his Lagerfeld show. He then flew to Monaco for the Rose Ball and back afterwards to prepare for Chanel.

Maybe the designer who produces eight major collections a year isn't modelling himself on Louis XIV. But will he look his best in leotards and cape as Superman?



Lagerfeld's ballerina embroideries on crepe

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THE TIMES DIARY

McCarthy witch hunt?

As the London School of Economics governors, including Sir Geoffrey Howe's wife Elspeth, denounce apartheid and call for a review of LSE funds in South Africa, allow me to drop a potential bombshell: the LSE's Economics Department has invited P. K. Botha's former economic adviser, Professor Colin McCarthy, to carry out research at the school in May and June. A member of the LSE staff who got wind of the invitation fears a repetition of the 1967 student riots in protest at the appointment of a white Rhodesian professor. McCarthy served under Botha in 1977 and is now head of economics at the Afrikaans Stellenbosch University, alma mater of South African prime ministers.

Testimonial

I hear of an incident almost straight from Clouseau. Chief Inspector David Gilbertson of Hyde Park police station got his hands on an anti-race alarm and decided to try it out on his colleagues. He crept up behind WPC Patricia Porter and PC John Walters and let it off. Both suffered damage to their ears and were sent home sick. That was on March 10. Walters has just reported back for duty but WPC Porter is still laid up. Scotland Yard could not say when she is likely to recover. So what device was it, and is it on the market? "We are not prepared to disclose any details," was the reply.

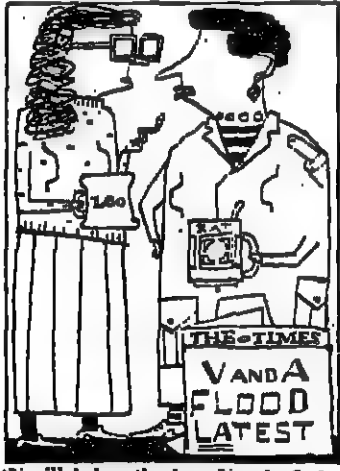
Coffer time

Neil Kinnock cannot be entirely chuffed with the selection of leaving Lambeth councillor Sharon Atkin to fight Nottingham East. A Tory marginal, at the general election, she has frequently clashed with the national leadership over black sections. But if anyone hopes she might be dislodged from standing through bankruptcy in the face of a £3,997 surcharge imposed by the courts over last year's delay in setting a rate, they can forget it. Her husband is Ed Atkin, recently appointed director of Housing in Lambeth at a salary of £38,000.

Making news

Labour whip John McWilliam almost gave the parliamentarians the chance to throw off its normal discretion in his hunt for speakers for the Budget debate. "Garath," began the bespectacled McWilliam to someone he took to be Labour MP Gareth Wardell, "would you mind speaking?" It took fully 30 seconds before McWilliam's victim managed to get a word in edgewise and identify himself as ITN political editor Glyn Mathias.

BARRY FANTONI



Neville's heartbroken. Now he feels compelled to pay the two quid.

Faint Herts

Attempts to calm visitors' fears about security at Heathrow have backfired. A 350th anniversary visit by a group of Americans from Hartford, Connecticut, to Hertford, Herts, has just been cancelled. Their travel agent wrote to Hertford's town clerk, Ann Kirby, to say the newspaper reports about our gun-toting bobbies had caused fears to the point where the good citizens of Connecticut planned to spend the summer staying put.

Unwarranted

Not one Gerry Adams but two had walk-on parts in the bungled extradition of Evelyn Glenholmes in the Dublin high court. Taking the more prominent part was, of course, Gerard, the Sinn Féin leader, keeping a lower profile was Gerald Adams, the lawyer in the DPP's department in London who, with others, was dealing with the affair.

Capital

Although it doesn't quite compare with the largesse of Paul Getty, the Soviet embassy has sent an unsolicited cheque for £250 to Highgate Cemetery in London — presumably to stop the grass growing over Marx's tomb.

Jumping Jack

The man who bestrode the trade union world like Colossus, whose opinion was sought on almost every important decision during the Wilson and Callaghan governments, is about to go public: trace yourself for the Jack Jones autobiography. Entitled *A Union Man*, it will be published this summer and promises to contain salutory advice to Norman Willis et al.

PHS

Ten years ago, in a speech at Ruskin College, Oxford, James Callaghan, then prime minister, sparked off the "great debate" on education. After castigating variations in standards, the lack of a core curriculum, the gulf between industry and education and the questionable results of informal teaching methods, he concluded: "We must aim for something better."

The Ruskin speech was followed by a series of regional conferences. Parents, teachers, the local authorities and representatives of industry and trade unions came and debated. A decade later, the themes of that debate are sounding still.

There have been significant changes. Take the role of parents. They did not serve as governors of the schools their children attended. They were seldom welcomed even as visitors. That situation was transformed by the Taylor Committee which, in 1977, called for a quarter of places on governing bodies to go to parents. Provision for parent governors was incorporated in my 1978 Education Bill, which was halfway through its committee stage when halted by the general election. It became law in the Conservative 1980 Education Act.

In the Education Bill published recently by Sir Keith Joseph parent power is being further extended. The governing bodies of secondary schools are to have five parents. These will be empowered to set out their policy for what should be taught, in consultation with the local education authority and head teacher.

Parent power has been strengthened by a right to information about schools, first advocated in a circular in 1977 and subsequently enacted in legislation. I did not require schools to publish examination results, because comparisons can be highly misleading if the social composition of school catchment areas is not taken into account.

Parents now at least have an opportunity to influence the education system. It may not yet have been fully grasped. But the potential is there.

Educational change moves slowly. Reform percolates through scores of organizations and institutions, each one with a finger in the pie. "You are leaving a ministry which works on a 24-hour timescale for one where the timescale is eternity," a civil servant told me in 1967 when I moved to the DES from the Ministry of Labour.

An idea that falls through lack of qualified teachers

It was right. Take the basic list of subjects, the core curriculum, advocated in the great debate. In many schools it is still only an aspiration. A highly desirable reform would be to base numbers and types of teachers on the subjects offered in a particular school. That cannot be achieved because of acute shortages of maths, science, craft, design and technology teachers. The objective is agreed inside the classroom and out, but the means are lacking.

Similarly, everyone agrees there should be closer links between schools and industry. The concern is a hardy perennial.

I became Education Secretary in September 1976. Project Technology and the Central Business Institute's *Understanding British Industry* were being vigorously promoted in the schools. The Science Research Council was setting up teaching companies. Four-year engineering courses were being introduced. With much fanfare, I inaugurated a national engineering scholarship

Alison, severely handicapped by Down's syndrome, is almost 20. She sits on a bean-bag in her parents' home in Harrogate, watching television, burling, occasionally bursting into gales of laughter. She cannot speak. She loves company, music, and water. Give her a bath and the problem is getting her out of it. She can barely feed herself, but let her loose in the garden and she eats the grass.

On trips out she goes in a pushchair. Until December she spent every weekday at the adult training centre in Galeshead. Stimulated by the company, the training and the entertainment, she was making slow progress. Her mother, Anne, has now given up her part-time teaching job to care for Alison because the family has moved to Harrogate, whose social services department cannot offer a training centre place or even say when one will be available.

Her father, Roy Bradshaw, says the progress Alison had made in the three years since leaving school is slipping away. "Try as we do, we cannot at home give her the stimulation a training centre provides or the expert specialist teaching."

There are thousands of mentally handicapped children in Britain, tens of thousands of mentally ill patients — many discharged from long-stay hospitals — and tens of thousands of disabled people for whom local authority social services are either absent or inadequate.

Alison's case is somewhat different from all the others because her father works for Mencap, the Royal Society for Mentally Handicapped Children and Adults. He is its northern divisional manager, moving to Harrogate from Galeshead after promotion. But despite his knowledge of voluntary and local authority support, and despite giving Harrogate eight months' notice of the move, he cannot find the services Alison needs because not enough of them exist. What chance, then, has someone without his knowledge?

In an attempt to improve things, Tom Clarke, Labour MP for Monklands West, has introduced a private member's bill

Shirley Williams finds urgent reforms still in the pending tray a decade after the 'great debate' on education

Schools: the lessons still for learning



scheme, jointly financed by industry and the government.

But governments have a habit of abandoning or downgrading their predecessors' initiatives. Ten years on, Britain is even worse off for graduate engineers and for people with skills in the new technologies. Switching scarce places in higher education from the arts and humanities to science and technology, as the government proposes, will not help, for the schools are not producing enough A-level students qualified in those subjects.

The problem lies deeper. It lies with the shortage of science teachers and with our absurdly over-specialized secondary examination system, which allows pupils to drop maths and science at 16 and even younger.

The dispute between advocates of comprehensive secondary schools and selection of children for schools on grounds of ability goes on, and on. It will certainly flare up if the Tory radical right succeeds in putting vouchers on the agenda. But in fact it is a dispute that is merely an echo of old, dead battles.

Objective research, such as the ambitious study by the National Children's Bureau, shows that the qualities of an individual school matter more than the system. Good comprehensives offer a better education than poor selective schools and vice versa. The quality of head and teaching staff is vital, although inadequate supplies of books and equipment and poor maintenance of school buildings have their part to play in explaining performance.

Today the issue of how good the secondary schools are is being

overtaken by the rapid growth of sixth-form and tertiary colleges, able to offer a much wider curriculum than the traditional sixth form, and an adult atmosphere in which discipline ceases to be a problem. Already many independent school pupils are transferring to local authority colleges for sixth-form work.

Sixth-form and tertiary colleges also offer a solution to the least defensible and most damaging of all the divisions in our segregated education system, the academic-vocational divide. Young men and women in the tertiary colleges can study for technological and vocational qualifications alongside those doing A-levels, and can combine subjects — draw, for example, that is impossible in most school sixth forms, and even in many sixth-form colleges.

This new opportunity is echoed lower down the secondary school structure by the present government's commendable Technical and Vocational Education Initiative (TVEI). These courses should be available to all pupils aged 14 and above, including those on academic courses.

The past ten years have brought progress. But problems remain. The first revolves around teachers' perception of their professional role. Badly paid, and poorly criticized, not least by the present government, teachers have become resentful and demoralized. The year-long dispute has undermined support for maintained education among parents and pupils. The teachers' unions have kicked into their own goal.

But the dispute has also given many teachers experience of teaching without the penumbra of

pastoral duties, from school societies to dinner supervision. Going back to all those duties in return for a small pay increase is not attractive to teachers.

So a choice has to be made. On the one hand, higher rates of pay for a respected professional job, with obligations beyond the classroom; willingness to accept assessment of performance and agreed severance for those unable to teach or control classes effectively; a commitment by employers to train new teachers and regular in-service courses for serving teachers, and a professional teachers' council monitoring its own standards. On the other hand, a clock-watching trade, paid according to the time spent in classroom teaching and with no obligations beyond it.

I prefer the former. But it will take much self-examination by teachers' organizations that are poised between militant trade unionism and uneasy professionalism.

The administration of education is in flux, too. The DES is powerless. It tries to work through agencies it does not control, the local education authorities. The Cabinet, impatient to get things done, has used the one weapon it has to hand, the centrally funded Manpower Services Commission. In consequence, the MSC has invaded or taken over very large areas of education and training. It is not accountable to local education authorities or even to education ministers, and is resented by them.

Bringing together the vocational and the academic

It is absurd for the DES to have no effective powers. Yet a wholly centralized department which lays down the curriculum and directs teachers would be alien to our tradition.

Leaving it all to parents won't work either. Voucher systems run up against the physical limitations of buildings and the management capacity of head teachers. They may be excellent in a small school, inadequate in a large one.

The solution, I believe, lies in two developments. At the centre, education and training should be brought together, by incorporating the MSC's youth and adult training functions into the DES. Such an amalgamation would have beneficial effects in healing the academic-vocational divide. It would encourage continuing education and retraining among adults. It would create a basis for courses combining practical work, training and education: these would appeal specially to youngsters tired of formal schooling in the fourth and fifth forms.

It should be complemented, however, by a further devolution of power to school governing bodies which include parents. Each school, as in Hertfordshire and Cambridgeshire, should be allocated part of the overall education budget to spend as its governing body chooses: on books or decorations or extra teachers. Information on how this allocation is to be spent should be made available to parents. The governing body could also have the power to hire and fire teachers, subject only to the final approval of the local education authority.

Education would become responsive to those it serves, children and parents, at the school level, while at government level the crying national need to bridge the academic-vocational divide would be met. Such a reform would be a worthy sequel to the great debate.

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The author, president of the SDP, was Education Secretary, 1976-79.

Nicholas Timmins reports on government embarrassment over a backbench move to give the disabled their rightful services

A charter for home care

which would ensure that the mentally and physically disabled, the mentally ill, and those who care for them, all had their needs properly assessed. The bill has acquired an impressive range of all-party support.

With the exception of an assessment of carers' needs the bill itself provides no new rights to services for such people. But what it would do — and what frightens the government — is to put effective teeth into the last major piece of legislation in this area, the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act of 1970. That established a right to services, from day care for the discharged schizophrenic to telephones for the housebound, bathing aids for the disabled and adult training centre places.

Such services can be provided only after a person's need for them has been established. Many local authorities, faced with limited budgets, avoid formal assessments that would establish such a right. Services for the disabled are in fact rationed, the level varying widely from area to area.

Clarke's bill would ensure many more formal assessments, making it much more difficult for local authorities not to provide the service once the need was established. Disabled people would have the right to appoint a representative to help them during assessment of their needs; youngsters would no longer leave school with the prospect of little or no further support. The mentally ill would be assessed before being discharged if they had been in hospital for longer than six

months, and for the first time the assistance that carers need to look after a mentally or physically disabled person adequately at home would be assessed.

The bill puts the government in a dilemma. It cannot easily oppose a measure designed to ensure that disabled people receive services to which they are already entitled, and it is worried about the financial implications. Its response has been to issue a consultative document which supports the bill in principle but waters down its provisions. It proposes, for example, that the timetable for the bill stays down for assessing the needs of those leaving school should be dropped as too administratively burdensome. The same proposal, it says, to the proposal that longer-stay mentally ill people should be assessed a minimum of 28 days before discharge from hospital. It suggests only that local social services departments should be notified of impending discharges.

The government endorses the principle that carers' needs should be assessed but says that to impose a statutory duty to do so "would not be right" given "the pressures on local authority resources".

The overwhelming response by voluntary, health and local authority organizations has been to back the original bill, not the government's suggested changes; but local authorities are themselves worried at the cost implications of even the government's more limited proposals. The Association of County Councils,

which has expressed the strongest reservations, estimates that a further £25 million a year would be required for assessments and between £50 million and £100 million extra for services.

Those who have been lobbying ministers fear that no extra government money will be forthcoming. Clarke, supported by Tory backbenchers as well as Labour and Alliance, is sticking to his guns.

"We have government statement after statement saying it wants care in the community to develop. Norman Fowler has said no patient should be discharged from a mental hospital to a situation where services do not exist. Yet we all know that is happening. Any administrative difficulties could no doubt be eased. But we must insist that the government makes available the necessary resources to develop proper community care."

"Objecting to formally assessing carers' needs is shortsighted. When an assessment shows that with a home help, or a lift, or some other service they can continue to cope, it must make sense to spend small sums of money that way rather than have the family break down with the disabled person going into hospital or residential care at a cost of hundreds of pounds a week. In some cases formal assessment will save public money, not produce extra costs."

"Many of these carers are elderly people caring for disabled children who are now adults. When the parent can no longer cope they can both end up in institutions if support services are not provided."

While the bill would add to costs, Clarke said, he believed the scale suggested by the government was exaggerated: "In any case they will occur over a period of years, not all at once."

The bill's report stage is due on April 16: the government will produce its formal amendments tomorrow, Clarke said. "So far the government has given the impression that it is in favour of the principles but asked us to accept amendments which would defeat most of the bill's objectives."

Roger Scruton

Public money muzzlers

"The peculiar evil of silencing the expression of an opinion is that it is robbing the human race; posterity as well as the existing generation; those who dissent from the opinion, still more than those who hold it. If the opinion is right, they are deprived of the opportunity of exchanging error for truth; if wrong, they lose what is almost a great benefit, the clearer perception and trulier impression of truth, produced by its collision with error."

John Stuart Mill's words encapsulate what was, until recently, a common premise of British politics, and a cornerstone of our education system. It was assumed that, within the limits of decency and public order, a British citizen is free to speak his mind, and that political decisions should not be taken before a period of free public discussion. It was also assumed that no educational institution at the higher level, whether college, university or polytechnic, could engage in censorship and still retain its academic standing.

Of course, public pressures make the expression of certain opinions difficult. Those who speak on the "right" know that they must contend with a fearful barrage of *bien pensant* hostility. Nevertheless, they learn in due course to despise fashionable opinion and to ignore those who live by it. Even in the strongholds of the left establishment, therefore — in universities and polytechnics — it has been possible for a right-winger to speak his mind. If his prospects have suffered, it has been merely because, in the opinion of his respectable colleagues, right-wing convictions are so conclusive a sign of a defective intelligence as to outweigh the evidence of a lifetime's teaching or research.

In recent months, however, the position of the right-winger has appreciably worsened. His opinions are now widely censored, not only in public debate but also in places of learning. This is especially so when those opinions touch on the question of ethnic minorities, where to diverge from the left-wing orthodoxy in the smallest particular is to risk the charge of "racism."

In fact most people do diverge from this orthodoxy, and are deeply insulted by the accusation that despite their record of hospitality to immigrants they are really "racist." The suppression of their viewpoint could lead in the end to a dangerous reaction.

Nevertheless, to speak out for the majority over this issue, on which the majority are judged to be "right-wing," is to risk harassment and slander.

Such has been the fate of the *Salisbury Review*. Some time ago one of its contributors, Ray Honeyford, questioned the orthodox view of multicultural education. Through a long campaign of organized intimidation, he was

forced to withhold his opinions from the press, and finally to resign from his job as a headmaster. Another contributor, Jonathan Savery, expressed his support for Honeyford's arguments, drawing on his own considerable experience as a teacher of ethnic minorities. He too is being victimized. Avon Education Authority has summoned him to a "disciplinary hearing," while the local NUT has launched a campaign of denigration, circulating documents calculated to influence opinion against him and to prejudice the outcome of his "trial."

Nobody who writes for the *Salisbury Review* is really safe from harassment and slander. Whether they write about "weasel words" (P.A. Hayek), "the politics of language" (Sally Shreir) or the difference between the sexes (self) the left-wing press will find ways to discredit them. A secret element of "racism" and so to justify its damaging accusations. I was invited recently by Leeds city council to speak publicly on the subject of "peace education," and then hastily "disinvited" when it was discovered that, on this subject too, his opinions would prove disagreeable to the fascist left.

For Honeyford, "disinvitation" is a common experience. When the students of Oxford Polytechnic invited him to a conference, he was not surprised to receive a letter from the dean of the faculty of educational studies suggesting that "there may be a number of reasons why you might consider it appropriate to decline the invitation"; nor was he surprised when, having expressed his inability to discover such reasons, the conference was cancelled.

Likewise, when Honeyford was invited by a student body to speak at Bristol Polytechnic, which is in fact seriously open about its left-wing bias. Every year it organizes, through its department of humanities, a conference on "literature, teaching, politics," as, to "provide an opportunity for those on the left concerned with the teaching and studying of literature, modern languages and cultural studies to discuss common concerns and problems." Of course, no academic institution could organize a conference expressly for those "on the right" — still less an institution that is publicly funded. But so habituated have we become to bias and intimidation that no one dares to object to Bristol Polytechnic, either for excluding right-wingers from its conferences or for forbidding them to speak to its students.

Gestures that should cause an immediate cessation of public funds are made with impunity, by people for whom education is less a means to truth than an excuse for politics.

The author is editor of the *Salisbury Review*.

moreover... Miles Kington

Spring hopes eternal

Spring, for me, is always heralded by the arrival of the first crocuses on the island round Marble Arch, though heaven knows how they cross the road to get there. But what marks the arrival of spring for other people? We asked a few. Sir Freddy Mercator, Deputy Astronomer Royal: "Winter viewing of the heavens is always a bit dull. You have a look through the telescope and all you see is a few late-night comets wending their way drunkenly home, or the odd planet, well wrapped-up, and shivering on the horizon. Then round about mid-March, you get this most extraordinary burst of activity — great swirling shapes, whorls and clusters, shimmering across the heavens. It's the local window-cleaner doing his spring-cleaning on the telescope lenses, and what a sparkling celestial display that Windolene makes! Beats anything in the skies."

Charles Giltrap, leader of the English rugby pack: "England Must Rethink Approach." That's the headline that always tells me that spring is here. The Five Nations Tournament is over, we've just been thrashed by France again, and the newspapers tell us that we have to run like the French. Terribly unfair, of course, because we do run like the French. The only difference is that they run with the ball, and we just run. But it's always wonderful to play at the Parc des Princes, even if you lose, on that wonderful green turf with the first snowdrops poking through, the jasmine twining up the goalposts and lovely fresh fish being sold on the touchline. What? No, of course we won't be rethinking our approach."

Anna Fox-Barry, radical feminist: "I hate spring. Spring is such a sexist season. Well, just think about it — all those green shoots thrusting up through the earth, and the sap rising, and the male birds marking out their territory — well, it just makes me sick. The imagery of spring is all male chauvinism... Which is such a shame, because it should be the season of birth and the cycle of life. This year I am establishing, in refuge for battered daffodils, but that is all I am telling you, because I refuse to talk to male journalists who will only make fun of us. Now get out."

Justin Cantelmo, Rich Young Broker of the Year: "I love spring."

It makes me a fortune. I buy and sell flowers in daffodils, hyacinths, narcissi, and anyone who can't make fifty thou a week out of that doesn't deserve to be in the City. Here's how it works. I get on the blower to the London Flower Exchange and I buy, say, a million snowdrops. No, I haven't got the money, but then on the other hand they haven't got the snowdrops. I then ring round the main flower brokers — well, anyway, I'm pretty rich by lunch-time, let's leave it at that. No, I never actually see any flowers. What's the point?

Desmids Coupling, Deputy-Vice-Chairman of British Rail: "Winter is a terrible time for us — winds blowing down signals, snow on the points, but at least the tunnels are safe. We buy very cheap fresh fish at the end of the summer and pop it in all our tunnels to deep-freeze for the winter. So spring arrives for me when I get the first call to say the tunnels are thawing out and it's time to sell the trout and salmon. A wonderful moment. And now, if you'll excuse me, I'm very busy; we're just restocking all our tunnels with the new crop of mushrooms..."

Bert Quern, Shadow Poet Laureate: "Yeah, well not many people know there is a Shadow Poet Laureate. But why should the government get all the best poems? Right? So, what we're trying to provide is an alternative poetic view of things — from Thatcherite winter to socialist renewal."

"Unfortunately, I've been hampered by the fact that the Tories have got a stranglehold on spring, with them having the Budget in mid-March and everything, not that I mind them having a Budget. I just can't think of a rhyme for Lawson, that's all, nor for Budget, come to that. Anyway, here we go with my spring poem. It's pretty gritty, so fasten your seat belts."

"I wandered lonely as a cloud, To get this poem written. It's about the only thing allowed in Thatcherite Britain."

I saw three million unemployed, Each one a bitter cynic, A fate that they could well avoid With Neil Kinnock.

"Yeah, well it's not a great rhyme for Kinnock. But think what it would have been like with Hattersley as leader."



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ECONOMICS OF PERVERSITY

Since 1976 the British taxpayer has invested £2 billion in British Leyland and, during the same period, the company's share of the market has been cut by half. If you are a backbench Conservative MP from a constituency that includes car workers or a front-bench Labour spokesman, this record presumably makes your heart swell with pride. To anyone else, however, the loss-making production of surplus motor vehicles for an overcrowded market can hardly rank as an acceptable status quo.

That is the justification for the British government's policy since 1980 of encouraging BL to cut back on over-manning and restrictive practices with a view to selling off the company in instalments. Some success in the preliminary part of that policy can be claimed. The workforce has been halved, restrictive practices reduced. But only the Jaguar company has yet been returned to the private sector. And the withdrawal of General Motors from its talks with the government on acquiring Land Rover and British Leyland Trucks — on top of the abandoned negotiations with Ford over Austin Rover — is disastrous for the policy.

The proposed marriage always had — and still has — industrial logic on its side. GM has world-wide distribution facilities to market the popular

Land Rover and Range Rover. The combination of GM's Bedford truck works and British Leyland vehicles offered just the prospect of profitable joint ventures that GM was seeking but that would have been a market threat to BL if they had been achieved with some other European partner. And GM has the capital to invest in BL's new developments like the promising Sherpa van.

Such a new company would be considerably more than the sum of its parts. Hence it really would be more profitable for GM to buy these chunks of BL than for BL to keep them. Various objections have been raised. One is that GM would profit from past investment by British governments. Since the profits in question are hypothetical (and past investment in BL has not inevitably led to profits), that objection should have detained no-one for very long.

Another is that rationalisation attendant upon GM's acquisitions would have led to job losses. Jobs lost because they represent overproduction in a saturated market will be lost anyway — unless they are to be permanently sustained by the British taxpayer. In this case, however, the likely expansion of Land Rover under GM auspices would have absorbed many, if not all, of the workers displaced by the

rationalisation of vehicle and truck production.

But the chief obstacle has turned out to be those perverse patriots on the Conservative back-benches who prefer losses achieved by Britons to profits won under American management. It was to assuage their outrage that the Government and GM were negotiating an arrangement whereby 51 per cent of BL would remain in British hands for a period. The talks apparently broke down over GM's insistence, not an unreasonable one, that it was to inject large amounts of capital into BL. It should have an eventual option on full control.

A sensible economic rationalisation has thus been averted. Other bidders, notably a proposed management buy-out, are still available. But GM may now seek another partner with which to expand its European production of trucks and vehicles. The increased competition which this will bring to an already crowded market will be an unappealing prospect for would-be new owners. And if the new (wholly British) company were to face job losses in the more competitive environment, it is only too likely to seek its salvation in state subsidy — and if the atmosphere of the last few weeks is any guide, to be granted it. Such are the unintended results of economic nationalism.

THE GLORY AND THE BRAIN DAMAGE

The death of Steve Watt, the boxer who collapsed in the tenth round of a fight a fortnight ago, has once more raised the question of whether the sport should be prohibited. The powerful case against boxing does not, however, rest upon fatalities in the ring.

Death is actually more common in other sports. Of the 480 deaths in British sport between 1969 and 1980, only two occurred in professional boxing compared to 85 in motorcycling, 93 in mountaineering, 53 in horseriding, 16 in canoeing, nine in cricket, three in karate and a surprising six in golf.

What distinguishes boxing from these is that causing hurt and injury to an opponent is the very aim of the sport. It is also the result. Medical evidence suggests very strongly that the repeated blows to the head endured by boxers in a fight produce cumulative and irreversible brain damage. The noble art of self-defence consists of deliberately attempting to inflict brain damage on an opponent.

Society allows its members to harm themselves in various ways, not least by smoking cigarettes. And when it intervenes to make them avoid the risk of injury, as for example with seat-belt legislation, the intervention is better justified as a forcible reminder of risks that might otherwise be forgotten than as compulsory health and virtue.

But no boxer enters the ring from absence of mind. And if

boxers were once unaware of the health risks they face there, they are now well-educated on that score by, among other things, the medical precautions introduced in recent years by the British Board of Boxing Control. These include an annual medical examination, skull X-rays and the close monitoring of a boxer's performance in the ring.

Boxers who pass these medical barriers now enter the ring not just voluntarily but also aware of the risks. It may seem an eccentric decision to most people. But a boxer might well strike the Faustian bargain of fame, glamour and money in youth at the risk of shuddering speech, uncoordinated movements and serious neuro-physical disorders in middle and old age. If an adult boxer makes such a decision knowingly, that decision should be accepted by the rest of us, however reluctantly.

The case against boxing, then, falls short of justifying its prohibition for adults. But the defence of individual liberty does not apply to children. Society has ample justification for prohibiting their participation in the sport.

In fact it does the reverse. Boxing is still taught in some schools, though in far fewer than twenty years ago. The larger cities, in particular London, still boast boxing clubs where boys as young as ten years old learn the sport under the auspices of the Amateur Boxing Association.

This early recruitment is, of

course, essential to the sport's continuation. Almost no one would become a boxer in adult life if he had not already been drawn into the sport as a boy. So if total prohibition of boxing goes too far, measures to halt the recruitment of children into it are certainly justified. It will come to the same thing in the end as the supply of boxing recruits gradually dries up.

Thus boxing clubs should not be allowed to admit boys until they have reached drinking age. The risks of boxing, after all, are heavier than those of alcoholism — and when the risk falls, the consequences are considerably more severe. Nor should schools be permitted to provide boxing lessons.

These modest prohibitions need to be supplemented by a more positive application of the force of social disapproval. The Departments of Health and Education should mount major public campaigns to warn parents of the nature of boxing — and the possible consequences of their sons' participation in it. Radio, television and the press should reflect on whether they give the sport more attention than it deserves. Television, indeed, which keeps much of boxing alive, must ponder on whether it comes into that category of programs which deserve the late night slot.

Boxing is a sport that repays courage with disability of mind and body. At the very least, a civilised society must severely discourage it.

TESTS OF CONFIDENCE

The latest American nuclear test, which was carried out at the weekend despite the self-imposed Soviet moratorium, has already drawn criticism from allies like Denmark and New Zealand. While the reaction of neither Copenhagen nor Wellington is a very reliable guide on the wisdom of defence policies, it illustrates the embarrassment of the Western position. To carry out nuclear tests when the Russians have called for a halt, looks very much like being against motherhood and apple pie.

The United States argues that it needs to continue testing to ensure the effectiveness of its strategic deterrent. Britain says that the means of verifying a Comprehensive Test Ban (CTB) are still inadequate. Both governments complain that the Russians were able to declare a unilateral moratorium last year because they had recently completed their own missile modernization programme.

There is some truth in all this. Advances in the science of high frequency seismic analysis have encouraged hopes that the reliable identification of underground tests will soon be possible. But by no means all are convinced

and a country determined to evade any ban, should still have little difficulty in doing so.

On the other hand, is it ever likely to be otherwise? It might be considered naive to suppose that a system could be made so foolproof that it would entirely eliminate the possibility of cheating. The real difference between those who believe in pushing ahead towards a CTBT and those who hold back, lies in the degree of trust which is held to be acceptable.

As for the timing of the Soviet declaration, this reflects a historic difficulty over arms control. No moment is ever the right one for both sides — whose weapons vary in type, capability and age. The difficulty of equating like with like at any particular time is why progress has been so halting over the last 14 years.

It has become almost a truism that successful arms control is the product rather than the cause of good relations. There have been moratoria before, like that between 1958 and 1961 when it was the Soviets who broke it. President Eisenhower regarded the failure to translate that into a permanent treaty as the great disappointment of his eight years at the White House. But

to do so would have required more mutual trust and political will than was evident at that time. And now it is the Americans busily testing their Midgeman mobile missiles for the 1990s, or the British, working on a warhead for the Trident-2, who are reluctant to accommodate Russian offers.

A total test ban to replace the partial one signed in 1963, remains a highly desirable objective for a variety of reasons, not least environmental. For one thing it should slow down the pace of weapon development — whatever the advances in the techniques of computer simulation. For another it would go some way to appealing non-nuclear powers who, having signed away their rights under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty of 1968, complain bitterly that the "haves" are not keeping to their side of the bargain.

It has been reported that this latest American test might jeopardize Mr Gorbachev's summit visit to the United States this year. In fact the difficulty of achieving a joint moratorium makes it all the more essential that he should go. While in the United States he should go to the US nuclear test site in Nevada.

UK policy on arms control

From the Director of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute
Sir, The British Government's position on a number of current arms control issues is most disappointing. The comprehensive test ban issue is a case in point. The United Kingdom has joined the United States in refusing to negotiate. This is in violation of the preamble of at least two international treaties which the United Kingdom has ratified.

The preamble to the Partial Test Ban Treaty, signed by the UK in 1963, reads (in part): "Seeking to achieve the discontinuance of all test explosions of nuclear weapons for all time, determined to continue negotiations to this end..."

The preamble to the Non-Proliferation Treaty, signed by the UK in 1968, reads: "Recalling the determination expressed by the parties to the 1963 Treaty... to seek to achieve the discontinuance of all test explosions for all time and to continue negotiations to this end..."

At the Review Conference of the Non-Proliferation Treaty in September of last year, all delegations present — with two exceptions, the USA and the UK — deplored the fact that a comprehensive test ban treaty had not been concluded.

The United Kingdom cites problems of verification as the reason for refusing to negotiate. This was not the issue on which the tripartite negotiations broke down in 1980. In July, 1980, the UK made a joint agreed report on the negotiations, together with the USA and USSR, in which they said:

"The three negotiating parties believe that the verification measures being negotiated — particularly the provisions regarding the international exchange of seismic data, the committee of experts, and on-site inspections — broke significant new ground in international arms limitation efforts and will give all treaty parties the opportunity to participate in a substantial and constructive way in the process of verifying compliance with the treaty. It has already been agreed that there would be tamper-proof seismicological stations on the territory of the parties. Since 1980 there have been substantial advances in seismicology, with (for example) the new Norcross system (Norwegian Regional Seismic Array System).

The six nations which are parties to the five-continent, six-nation initiative — Sweden, Greece, India, Mexico, Tanzania and Argentina — have offered to help verification with seismicological facilities. In any case, problems of verification are matters for negotiation, not reasons for a refusal to negotiate. It is very difficult to defend the present British position on this issue. Yours faithfully, FRANK BLACKBURY, Director, Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, Bengtshamn, S-171 73 Solna, Sweden, March 19.

Keeping out the cold

From the Director of the Electricity Consumers' Council
Sir, As the third reading of the Gas Bill reaches the Commons, it is important to draw attention to the provisions within the Bill and authorisation for the protection of the consumer's interest.

When the Rt Hon Peter Walker announced the privatisation of gas he presented it as good for the industry and good for the consumer. It is on this latter point that there is most doubt, and with good reason. All gas consumers, and specially domestic gas consumers, require greater protection than the Bill and authorisation presently provide.

Electricity consumers (whether industrial, commercial or domestic) but simply to "future (Anglican) ordination." What he says is that, if the new commission brings the ARCIC statements on the Eucharist and the Ministry into complete, and not just partial, agreement with Roman teaching (i.e. if it effectively repudiates the Reformation), then a new situation will be created, in which future Anglican ordinations can be recognised.

That this is all the president of the Vatican Secretariat for the

Use of tolls

From Professor Ray Rees
Sir, If all we ask of tolls is that they raise revenue, then the Commons Transport Committee (report, March 13) is right, though its reasoning is not.

The objection is not so much one of anomaly and illogicality, but of cost ineffectiveness — the amount collected is not worth the costs and bother imposed by its collection, and the expenses arising out of bridge and tunnel operations could as well be met out of general road taxation.

We should, however, be a little more imaginative in the use to which we put tolls. Many of the bridges and tunnels in question suffer severe congestion, usually for short periods of the day, often in one direction at a time. Why not therefore abolish tolls at any time and in any direction in which congestion is absent, and raise them sharply for congested times and directions?

Yours faithfully, JENNIFER KIRKPATRICK, Director, Electricity Consumers' Council, Brook House, 2/16 Torrington Place, WC1, London, March 24.

Making a case for child hospices

From Professor J. D. Baum
Sir, There can be little doubt that the establishment of Helen House in Oxford, the first hospice in the world specifically for children, was a brilliantly imaginative and humanitarian development. Indeed it has been judged so successful that a number of groups have considered establishing similar children's hospices up and down the country, an example being Martin House in Yorkshire, the building of which is due to start this summer.

It is not well known, however, that scientific evaluation of the running, efficacy, advantages and possible undesirable side effects of the work of the hospice, coupled with an assessment of the facilities at present available in England and Wales for respite or terminal care of children, is in hand. This research is now into its second year and is funded by the Department of Health.

It is too early to report anything of the findings of these studies. It is however the opinion of the hospice's research steering committee that it is premature to close Helen House. Without wishing to constrain the compassionate enthusiasm of those who wish to establish their own local children's hospice, we should like to point out that such developments at this stage are problematical.

For example, it was guesswork that established Helen House as having eight children's beds. Per-

haps the facility should have been larger or smaller. It was guesswork that determined which children should be accepted for respite care. It was guesswork that established the hospice as an individual institution rather than a community-based service led by specially trained children's nurses. Our research is directed to answer these and other questions, such as how many such hospices are needed.

If it appeared, for instance, that three such facilities were required for the whole of the country, it would be unfortunate if individual charitable initiatives resulted in children's hospices clustered in the Midlands, leaving the other parts of the country unprotected for.

We would urge restraint on those who are considering establishing a local children's hospice. A new service is no different from a new drug; we should not unleash it wholesale on the community at large until we have defined, by careful research, the therapeutic advantages, side effects and indications for the innovation.

Yours faithfully, J. D. BAUM, (Chairman, Helen House Research Steering Committee), University of Bristol, Royal Hospital for Sick Children, St Michael's Hill, Bristol, Avon, March 17.

Tax equality

From Mr John J. C. Freeman
Sir, I read with interest on March 15 your account of the Institute of Fiscal Studies claiming that Nigel Lawson's proposals for transferring tax allowances were "severely flawed". They, like so many others, are only capable of championing the causes of the privileged to hang on to their advantages over the rest of the population.

With around four million unemployed there can be no justice in giving 2.6 times the single tax allowance to two people who are married and both working, and only 1.6 tax allowance to a married couple with only one partner working; whilst at the same time couples living together and both working receive two tax allowances, as well as married couples who both work and find

there is a tax advantage in being taxed separately.

All adults should have the same tax allowance, regardless of marital status and whether or not they are working. If only one partner in a marriage is working, then their partner should be able to use the unused allowance, and transferable allowances are a simple and easy way to achieve this.

What is needed nowadays is an incentive for couples with families for one partner to stay at home and care for their children without further burdening society with demands for nursery facilities at places of work. Yours sincerely, JOHN J. C. FREEMAN, 20a Leigh Way, Weaverham, Northwich, Cheshire, March 18.

Student benefits

From Mr S. J. Ahearne
Sir, We must treat students as our seedcorn. By contrast, this Government seems intent on pauperising them. Of course it is necessary that students demonstrate responsibility and capability. Provided they do so, it is in society's best interest to support them adequately during their period of full-time education. Moonlighting barmen make half-baked students.

Individuals old enough to vote or pay tax on what they may earn are old enough to be regarded as financially independent of their parents. All capable students should receive the same adequate, rather than generous, support from society through the state.

Students are likely to lose the right to supplementary and unemployment benefits in the short

vacations; students in college will lose housing benefits altogether; students in rented accommodation will receive considerably less housing benefit during term and will lose housing benefit altogether during the long vacation unless they maintain residence throughout (consider the need of a language student to spend time in the country of his studied language).

These are serious losses for individual students. To compound matters, the standard maintenance grant is to rise by only 2 per cent, well below inflation.

Yours faithfully, STEPHEN AHEARNE, Canonfide, Stebbing, Nr Dunmow, Essex, March 17.

Moves to Rome

From the Reverend R. T. Beckwith
Sir, Your Religious Affairs Correspondent shows less than his usual perceptiveness in his account of the exchange of letters between Cardinal Willebrands and the co-chairmen of the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission (March 6).

Cardinal Willebrands does not in fact offer any change in the Church of Rome's repugnant attitude to Anglicans, but merely to "future (Anglican) ordination." What he says is that, if the new commission brings the ARCIC statements on the Eucharist and the Ministry into complete, and not just partial, agreement with Roman teaching (i.e. if it effectively repudiates the Reformation), then a new situation will be created, in which future Anglican ordinations can be recognised.

That this is all the president of the Vatican Secretariat for the

Promotion of Christian Unity can offer shows that there was nothing idiosyncratic in the rude rebuff which the Holy Office at Rome gave to the ARCIC report when it first appeared, for daring to deviate in any respect from Trent or Vatican I.

If this is as far as Rome can go, it sounds the death-knell for the ARCIC discussions. For the co-chairmen of ARCIC to describe the cardinal's letter as "helpful and timely" only shows how far from the realm of reality they are operating. There was much more realism in the Pope's words in Holland last May, when he expressed his "fundamental doubts about the possibility of rational advances in the field of ecumenism."

Yours faithfully, R. T. BECKWITH, Warden, Latimer House, 131 Banbury Road, Oxford, March 9.

Future of boxing

From Mr Kenneth E. Pottle
Sir, How many more boxers will die, become brain damaged and mentally ill, before you print a letter condemning boxing as a "non-sport", a "blood sport" and a primitive activity which has not a place in a civilised society?

We condemn bullfighting, dog-fighting, cockfighting etc as blood sports; why is manfighting tolerated? And why, in our enlightened age of non-sexual discrimination, is womanfighting not encouraged along with boxing?

Boxing induces in the spectators an excitement and neurotic interest in violence; my opinion is that blows to the head, and the objective of knocking the opponent out, unconscious on the floor, is a form of violence, and not to be compared with the dangers or rough handling associated with other sports. Violence is the vested interest of boxing.

Yours truly, KENNETH E. POTTLE, 28 Glebe Road, Barnes SW13, March 18.

ON THIS DAY

March 25 1878

The Eurydice, a Royal Navy frigate in sail of 525 tons, left Bermuda on March 6 with 983 people on board. She was sighted at about 3.30pm on the 24th bearing for Spithead. At 3.50pm the wind suddenly veered to eastward and increased to gale force, striking the frigate. It sank within half an hour. There were five survivors, three of whom later died.

FOUNDING OF HER MAJESTY'S SHIP EURYDICE.

OVER THREE HUNDRED LIVES LOST

We have received the following news from the Admiralty:—"The Admiralty have received the following telegram from Admiral Farnham, Commander-in-Chief at Portsmouth:—

"Have just received the following from coastguard, Ventnor:—'Eurydice, capsized off Dunmore, Cuddicombe, first-class boy, and Fletcher saved. Tabor, first lieutenant, very doubtful. Steamer going immediately.'"

"A further telegram states that she capsized in a sudden squall at half-past 4 this afternoon."

"A subsequent telegram states that Lieutenant Tabor and Colonel Ferrier, R.E., are dead."

"The Eurydice was commissioned by Captain Hare, in February, 1877, as a training-ship for second-class ordinary seamen, and she was returning to Spithead after a winter's cruise in the West Indies."

"The Admiral Commanding-in-Chief at Portsmouth has sent statements to search the vicinity of the accident, but no further report has been received."

"Admiralty, Sunday, 11.30pm."

(BY TELEGRAPH.) (FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.) VENTNOR, SUNDAY EVENING.

Her Majesty's training-ship Eurydice capsized in a sudden squall off Dunmore, late on the night of Sunday, March 24. She was bound for Spithead, and was observed passing Ventnor a few minutes before the catastrophe with all sail set. A snow storm then came on very suddenly with very heavy gusts of wind. Probably no more men have been saved than those picked up by the schooner, as a strong ebb tide was running. The sun came out brilliantly directly after the squall, but nothing could be seen from the shore at Ventnor except a few lambs being swept down the Channel, and certainly no boats. The schooner has been detained by Captain Roche, R.N., Inspecting Commander, St. Catherine's Division of the Coastguard, who went on board immediately with Ventnor doctors, and has telegraphed to the Admiralty at Portsmouth to send round a steamer.

LATER. Lieutenant Tabor is dead, and his body has been brought ashore, so that the only survivors, as far as is known, are Benjamin Cuddicombe, of Plymouth, and Sydney Fletcher, of Bristol, first-class boy, aged 18. Cuddicombe states that the ship capsized in a squall and snowstorm five miles off Dunmore, about 4 o'clock. More than 300 men were on board, all of whom, he believes, are lost except himself and Fletcher. Cuddicombe was among the last on the ship. Captain Hare was near him when the ship went down, sucking many with it. Cuddicombe and a man near him said that a vessel was close by when the squall came on, and, therefore, they would be sure to be picked up. He was over an hour in the water. Being a first-rate swimmer, every one called out to him for help. He tried to assist two or three, but at last four clung to him, and he was obliged to kick them off. Was well taken care of by the master of the schooner and crew. The ship left Bermuda three weeks ago, passed the Lizard yesterday, and expected to anchor at Spithead about 5 o'clock.

These two men are well provided for at the Cottage Hospital, Bonchurch, and are under the care of Dr. Williamson, of Ventnor, who considers them to be doing fairly well.

"The Eurydice was a training-ship for ordinary seamen, and is officially described as 'sixth-rate.' She was under the command of Captain Marcus Hare. Having left Bermuda on her return trip as recently as the 6th inst., she was not expected to reach Portsmouth for some days. Her consorts, the Martin and the Liberty, have arrived, the former at Portsmouth, and the latter at Plymouth."

Cover-up
From Dr P. Hickman
Sir, Mrs Houghton (March 18) and the noble Lord Chesterfield are of course, correct: the content is more important than the cover and I am sufficiently read to know that "of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh" (Ecclesiastes, xii.12).

Yours faithfully, P. HICKMAN, Scallard House, North Curry, Taunton, Somerset, March 20.

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On policy the Secretary-General will act as the Society's principal adviser and will both ensure the efficient execution of agreed policies, and propose and formulate new ones for consideration by the Council.

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Representation will be one of the most important aspects of the role. An acid test of the Secretary-General's effectiveness will be the extent to which Westminster, Whitehall and the media identify with the Society's aims and interests. The Secretary-General will, not infrequently, be the Society's representative in its relationship with the legal and other professions in the United Kingdom and the legal professions abroad.

The brief is an open one and either solicitors or non-solicitors may apply. Our profile of the man or woman we appoint is equally so - private practice, the public sector, industry or commerce could all yield the right experience. Irrespective of background, the new Secretary-General will have to achieve an exceptional grasp of both the law and the working of the profession in order to become the source of the innovative policy initiatives which we seek.

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Application forms quoting reference number: LA/1473X available from the:-

Personnel Division, Civic Centre, 50559 (24 hour answering service available). Closing date: 11 April 1986

ADVERTISING
CONTINUED ON
PAGE 25.

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£4m for soccer fire relatives

By Peter Davenport

More than £4 million has been paid out to relatives of those who died in the Bradford football fire and to those who were injured, it was disclosed yesterday.

Trustees of the appeal fund said they had given money to a total of 360 people. The details were contained in a summary of the fund's activities since the disastrous blaze last May which killed 56 spectators and injured a further 250 when the main stand at the Valley Parade ground of Bradford City Football Club was gutted.

A spokesman for the fund said last night: "The response was tremendous and it went a good way to helping alleviate the suffering of those involved in the tragedy."

"We have now paid out 95 per cent of all the money we received and a task that many thought would take two years has been achieved in 11 months."

The fund attracted donations large and small, from 50p from children's pocket money to £250,000 from the Government.

Officials last night said that only 1 per cent of the total had been used up on administrative costs and that the money banked had earned £216,000 in interest.

The fund was operated as a discretionary trust and the trustees will have to pay £97,000 in tax. Any cash left in the fund's account after payment of tax will be used to help organizations, such as the St John Ambulance Brigade, involved in helping those bereaved and injured in the blaze.

Earlier this week it was announced that the ground is to be completely rebuilt at a cost of more than £2.36 million, largely funded by a "farewell" grant of £1.46 million from the West Yorkshire Metropolitan County Council, which is soon to be abolished.



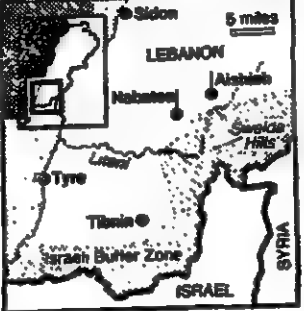
William the Conqueror holding court at Gloucester in 1085 as depicted in the Domesday Exhibition that opens in Winchester Great Hall on Thursday.

Bombardment closes Lebanon town

From Our Correspondent Beirut

Artillery units deployed inside Israel's buffer zone in south Lebanon bombed the market town of Nabatieh yesterday amid reports of increased anti-Israeli guerrilla activity in the area. Police in Nabatieh said two men and a woman were killed and 24 other people were wounded during the bombardment at daybreak. A few hours earlier guerrillas fired 12 Soviet-made Katyusha rockets into the Christian village of Aishieh, a stronghold of the South Lebanon Army militia, an irregular force financed, trained and armed by the Israelis.

It was unclear whether the shelling was in retaliation for the rocket attack, but shells



fell in the main square of Nabatieh throughout the morning, forcing the closure of schools, shops and offices in the town, 25 miles south of Beirut. Police said the shelling came from positions in the Swida hills manned both by Israeli soldiers and the SLA inside what the Israelis call their "security zone."

Shia Muslim militia sources accused the Israeli Army and claimed SLA artillery later joined in the bombardment. There was no way to verify the claims.

There was no immediate casualty report from Aishieh, but the Christian Voice of Hope radio said the rockets inflicted heavy damage.

The bombardment came as Mr Mark Gouding, a United Nations assistant secretary-general, held a new round of talks with Middle East governments on the future of the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

UNIFIL has been in south Lebanon since 1978 to supervise the withdrawal of the Israeli Army after the invasion that year. Israel has maintained a buffer zone north of its border ever since, refusing

to allow UNIFIL to deploy along the frontier and raising again questions on the effectiveness of renewing its mandate next month.

Meanwhile, Private Kevin Horan, a 22-year-old Irish soldier of UNIFIL, was reported in satisfactory condition after being wounded by an unidentified gunman in south Lebanon.

In Beirut, unidentified gunmen hurled a hand grenade into an office of the Lebanese Communist Party. No one was hurt.

● **Mercy call:** The British Ambassador in Lebanon, Mr John Gray, called yesterday for mercy for the British journalist hostage, Alec Collett, who was seized in Lebanon a year ago (Reuter reports).

Private Eye pays damages to accountant

Mr John Morphey, a chartered accountant alleged to have been involved in a £500,000 fraud of the Bob Hope British classic golf tournament, won "substantial" libel damages from *Private Eye* in the High Court in London yesterday.

Mr Michael Tugendhat, for Mr Morphey, told Mr Justice Turner that allegations in the magazine in January 1984 were unwarranted attacks on his good name.

It was alleged that after the collapse of the tournament he was in some way guilty of, or a party to, a fraud at the expense of the creditors or charities. Mr Morphey's company had added the accounts of the tournament free of charge.

Letter from Brussels

Threat to Dallas and Dynasty

Now that the EEC Commission has at last published its plans for European broadcasting (the French elections being safely out of the way), the worst fears of the anti-marketisers have been realized.

The BBC and IBA are none too happy either about "European control". Soon we shall all be forced to watch dismal French soap operas and Italian strip shows, if the critics are to be believed.

Since we have 16 television channels at our disposal in Brussels, covering nearly all the EEC, I can confirm that Continental television leaves much to be desired. Even on rainy days, with French, German and Dutch television available at the flick of a switch, the cry goes up in our household: "There's nothing on television!"

Breaking barriers

Quite often the pick of the day is *Dallas* and *Dynasty*, sometimes dubbed and sometimes sub-titled, and always at different stages in the series in each country, so that you never know where you are or who has done what to whom.

But Lord Cockfield, the senior British Commissioner and the man responsible for the internal market - broadcasting included - argues that all this is to misunderstand his proposal for television without frontiers.

If approved, the plan would oblige EEC states to buy 30 per cent of their non-news television programmes from fellow-Europeans, rising to 60 per cent in a short period.

This is not so much anti-American, Lord Cockfield's staff at the Commission point out, as pro-European. As we approach the Cockfield vision of a complete internal market by 1992 and move inexorably toward a "Europe without frontiers", the television proposal (yet to be passed into law by the Council of Ministers) would ensure that the peoples of Europe cross-fertilize culturally as their identities merge. Nation

states remain individual as they also become European. As for quality of programmes, the Cockfield plan lays stress on independent television producers to stimulate European excellence. The process of breaking down barriers between EEC states stems from the EEC summit in Luxembourg last December, which adopted a range of reforms.

The measures do not appear radical in themselves, but the single European Act in which they are enshrined is another step toward European unity. The Act has now been signed by all of the Twelve, including Denmark, Greece and Italy, which had reservations.

Perhaps the most significant innovation is majority voting, rather than unanimity, in the Council of Ministers, meaning that on a range of internal market issues the national veto is undermined and dissenting states will have to accept the will of the majority.

Although this does not come into force until the reforms have been ratified by EEC parliaments, EEC ministers are already formulating their proposals and decisions as if majority voting were in operation, according to Mr Willem Van Eekelen, the Dutch Minister for European Affairs.

Problems for Britain

The country which will inherit the problems of abolishing trade barriers and frontier checks is Britain, which takes over the EEC presidency in July.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher may not share Lord Cockfield's vision or idealism, but the Government is pledged to implement the Luxembourg reforms step by step, which in the case of the internal market involves some 300 separate decisions.

Lord Cockfield has already given warning that the 1992 target date must not be allowed to slip.

Richard Owen

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen holds and investiture, Buckingham Palace, 11; Duke of Edinburgh, dinner with the High Commissioner for New Zealand, 43 Chelsea Sq, SW3 8.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron, the Fleet Air Arm Museum, hosts a reception at Buckingham Palace, 6.

The Prince of Wales presents the Export Awards for Smaller Businesses 1986, the Savoy Hotel, WC2 1 30.

The Princess of Wales, Patron, Help the Aged, attends the

launch of the charity's Silver Jubilee, the Mayfair Hotel, Stratton St, W1, 12 30.

The Duke of Gloucester opens the Office Environment exhibition, at Olympia, 10.30.

Princess Michael of Kent attends The Mousetrap third century celebratory lunch, the Savoy Hotel, WC2 1.

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TV top ten

National top ten television programmes in the week ending March 16:

- 1 EastEnders (Tue/Sat) 23.45m
- 2 EastEnders (Thu/Sun) 23.35m
- 3 Dallas 12.45m
- 4 Dear John 12.30m
- 5 Wogan (Fri) 12.30m
- 6 Tomorrow's World 12.15m
- 7 News: Mersey: The Body in the Library 11.50m
- 8 Question of Sport 11.30m
- 9 News: 9.15m
- 10 Dynasty 11.10m

ITV (Mon) Granada

- 1 Coronation St (Mon) Granada 17.00m
- 2 Coronation St (Wed) Granada 17.00m
- 3 News: You Were Here (Mon/Wed) 17.00m
- 4 Taggart 17.00m
- 5 The British Academy Awards 17.00m
- 6 News: 17.00m
- 7 News: 17.00m
- 8 News: 17.00m
- 9 News: 17.00m
- 10 News: 17.00m

ITV (Tue/Sat) Granada

- 1 Brookside (Tue/Sat) 8.55m
- 2 Brookside (Mon/Sat) 8.55m
- 3 Treasure Hunt 8.55m
- 4 News: 8.55m
- 5 News: 8.55m
- 6 News: 8.55m
- 7 News: 8.55m
- 8 News: 8.55m
- 9 News: 8.55m
- 10 News: 8.55m

ITV (Wed) Granada

- 1 Brookside (Wed) 8.55m
- 2 Brookside (Wed) 8.55m
- 3 Treasure Hunt 8.55m
- 4 News: 8.55m
- 5 News: 8.55m
- 6 News: 8.55m
- 7 News: 8.55m
- 8 News: 8.55m
- 9 News: 8.55m
- 10 News: 8.55m

ITV (Thu) Granada

- 1 Brookside (Thu) 8.55m
- 2 Brookside (Thu) 8.55m
- 3 Treasure Hunt 8.55m
- 4 News: 8.55m
- 5 News: 8.55m
- 6 News: 8.55m
- 7 News: 8.55m
- 8 News: 8.55m
- 9 News: 8.55m
- 10 News: 8.55m

ITV (Fri) Granada

- 1 Brookside (Fri) 8.55m
- 2 Brookside (Fri) 8.55m
- 3 Treasure Hunt 8.55m
- 4 News: 8.55m
- 5 News: 8.55m
- 6 News: 8.55m
- 7 News: 8.55m
- 8 News: 8.55m
- 9 News: 8.55m
- 10 News: 8.55m

ITV (Sat) Granada

- 1 Brookside (Sat) 8.55m
- 2 Brookside (Sat) 8.55m
- 3 Treasure Hunt 8.55m
- 4 News: 8.55m
- 5 News: 8.55m
- 6 News: 8.55m
- 7 News: 8.55m
- 8 News: 8.55m
- 9 News: 8.55m
- 10 News: 8.55m

ITV (Sun) Granada

- 1 Brookside (Sun) 8.55m
- 2 Brookside (Sun) 8.55m
- 3 Treasure Hunt 8.55m
- 4 News: 8.55m
- 5 News: 8.55m
- 6 News: 8.55m
- 7 News: 8.55m
- 8 News: 8.55m
- 9 News: 8.55m
- 10 News: 8.55m

ITV (Mon) Granada

- 1 Brookside (Mon) 8.55m
- 2 Brookside (Mon) 8.55m
- 3 Treasure Hunt 8.55m
- 4 News: 8.55m
- 5 News: 8.55m
- 6 News: 8.55m
- 7 News: 8.55m
- 8 News: 8.55m
- 9 News: 8.55m
- 10 News: 8.55m

Roads

London and South-east: A26: Delays on Brixton Rd at the junction with Ave Lane. Int: Inside lane closed southbound between junction 64 (A26) and 65 (A26).

Wales: A47: Delays on the A47 between junction 7 and 8 (M40).

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Weather forecast

A cold northwesterly airstream will persist over Britain.

6 am to midnight

London, SE, central S, SW England, Midlands, Channel Islands: Sunny intervals, scattered showers of rain, sleet or snow at times; winds W or NW fresh or strong locally; sea choppy.

East Angles, SE, central S, NE England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, scattered showers of rain, sleet or snow at times; winds NW fresh or strong; sea choppy.

Wales, SW Scotland, Argyl, Northern Ireland: Bright intervals, frequent showers of rain, sleet or snow at times; winds W or NW strong or gale; sea choppy.

Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Glasgow: Sunny intervals, scattered showers of rain, sleet or snow at times; winds NW fresh or strong; sea choppy.

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: Staying unsettled with showers or longer periods of rain but also some brighter dry periods.

Full moon tonight

Lighting-up time

London 6.52 pm to 5.21 am

Edinburgh 7.05 pm to 5.30 am

Belfast 7.01 pm to 5.28 am

Perth 7.13 pm to 5.43 am

Cardiff 7.13 pm to 5.43 am

Sheffield 7.13 pm to 5.43 am

Manchester 7.13 pm to 5.43 am

Nottingham 7.13 pm to 5.43 am

Leeds 7.13 pm to 5.43 am

Sheff 7.13 pm to 5.43 am

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Leeds 7.13 pm to 5.43 am

Sheff 7.13 pm to 5.43 am

High Tides

Today's high tide times in the British Isles (times in GMT)

London Bridge 10.10, 10.12, 10.14

Southampton 10.10, 10.12, 10.14

Belfast 10.10, 10.12, 10.14

Cardiff 10.10, 10.12, 10.14

Sheffield 10.10, 10.12, 10.14

Manchester 10.10, 10.12, 10.14

Nottingham 10.10, 10.12, 10.14

Leeds 10.10, 10.12, 10.14

Sheff 10.10, 10.12, 10.14

Nottingham 10.10, 10.12, 10.14

Leeds 10.10, 10.12, 10.14

Sheff 10.10, 10.12, 10.14

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Leeds 10.10, 10.12, 10.14

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Nottingham 10.10, 10.12, 10.14

Leeds 10.10, 10.12, 10.14

Sheff 10.10, 10.12, 10.14

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1394.6 (-17.6)
FT-SE 100
1663.9 (-24.4)
USM (Datastream)
119.28 (-0.06)

THE POUND

US Dollar
1.4900 (-0.0210)
W German mark
3.4039 (+0.0162)
Trade-weighted
75.9 (unchanged)

Holidays expansion

International Leisure, the holiday company formerly known as Intasun, is raising £28.5 million by way of a rights issue. The money will be used to finance further expansion.

Mr Harry Goodman, the chairman, said prospects for this summer were good. More than a million bookings had been taken, against only 530,000 at the same time last year.

He hopes to sell a further 500,000 holidays before the end of the season. Average prices are 11 per cent lower than a year ago, but some competitors are discounting by even larger amounts.

Board switch

Dame Jennifer Jenkins has retired as a non-executive director of J Sainsbury, the supermarket group, after five years on the board. She has been replaced by Mrs Diana Eccles, who is a director of Tynes Television and vice-chairman of Durham University Council.

Steetley up

Steetley, the construction materials and quarries company, made pretax profits of £36.8 million in 1985, up from £32.7 million. Turnover was down 3 per cent at £409 million and the dividend payout is increased by 1p to 13p.

Times, page 19

Profit down

Sovereign Oil & Gas yesterday reported a pretax profit of £12.5 million for the year to December, down 31 per cent. Turnover rose 7 per cent to £58.3 million but profits were reduced by operating costs up 16 per cent and exploration write-offs more than doubled.

Times, page 19

Poor training

Inadequate industrial training was largely to blame for Britain's decline in manufacturing, Sir Denis Rooke, chairman of British Gas, told an Engineering Industry Training Board conference at the weekend.

Barrow climbs

Barrow Hepburn's pretax profits rose from £1.6 million to £2.2 million last year. Turnover was 11 per cent ahead at £45.6 million. The two main profit centres, engineering and chemicals, accounted for 83 per cent of trading profits.

Indicator up

The longer leading indicator for the British economy rose strongly last month, mainly as a result of rising share prices. But officials say that the cyclical indicators, which a year ago were pointing to a downturn in economic activity, are not providing a clear message about trends.

Wilkes audit

James Wilkes has had his accounts qualified by the auditors on the grounds that a subsidiary's accounting records did not adequately identify and separately record development expenditure on major projects.

Elders to seek court block on commission disclosures

By Alison Eadie

Elders Ltd, the Australian brewery group whose £1.7 billion bid for the food and drink group Allied-Lyons was referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission in December, yesterday announced that it was going to court to try to prevent the commission disclosing confidential information to Allied-Lyons.

Elders said it had been told by the chairman of the Monopolies Commission, Sir Godfrey Le Quesne, that it was necessary for the commission, in fulfilling its statutory duty, to disclose to Allied-Lyons details of Elders' future financing plans and bid tactics. Elders has disclosed its plans to the commission in confidence to try to allay fears that it does not have proper financial backing for its bid.

The original reference to the commission was made not on competition grounds but because Mr Leon Brittan, who was then Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said the bid's financing "raised issues which deserved investigation". Mr John Elliott, chairman of Elders, said last month he was confident he could persuade the commission of the financial soundness of the bid.

Mr Andrew Cummins, group director of strategy for Elders, said Sir Godfrey believed it was a requirement of natural justice that Allied should understand what Elders was intending to do. Allied had based its defence on the first bid, which no longer existed. Sir Godfrey was unavailable for comment yesterday.

Mr Cummins said the disclosure of Elders' plans three to four months before it could re-launch its bid would seriously jeopardize its chances of success. The section of Elders' submission that the commission wants to disclose includes full details of how Elders intend to finance its bid, sets out the effects of such an offer at a specified price and explains how Elders would finance the initial consideration on a longer-term basis.

Elders tried to find a way round by suggesting that a merchant banker and the Bank of England should sit on the commission and vet the financing arrangements. It also gave a list of questions to the commission to ask of Allied and finally offered to produce a slimmed down version of its plans for Allied to see. Although the commission took up the first two suggestions it still wanted to release the full bid plans to Allied.

Mr Elliott declared at the time that a bid made in current market conditions would not be successful except at an unrealistic price. Allied's share price eased 8p yesterday to 328p and Elders' closed 5p lower at 168p.

Elders first bid for Allied was made at 255p a share.



John Elliott: secret tactics at stake

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MOD contract row flares as Swan Hunter revises offer

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Amd a developing row over a £240 million contract for two vessels for the Royal Fleet Auxiliary, the Ministry of Defence yesterday delayed a planned announcement on the placing of the order as Swan Hunter, the recently privatized Tyneside shipbuilder, disclosed that it had revised its tender offer.

Swan Hunter, which has given warning that 2,000 jobs could be at risk if it does not win the contract, has re-tendered "at a price we believe is competitive", said Mr Alex Marshall, one of the four joint managing directors at Swan Hunter, which was bought out by management two months ago.

The row has flared up between Swan Hunter and the State-owned Belfast yard of Harland & Wolff, which had been expected in Whitehall to get the contract. Swan has pointed to Harland's history of delays and cost overruns. The buyout team were also given a written guarantee by the Government that there would be no unfair competition from nationalised businesses.

But Harland yesterday gave its own jobs warning. The company said that the last vessel on its order book is due for delivery in early 1988 and that the auxiliaries contract would provide work for 2,000 of its 5,000 employees for three years.

If Harland gets the contract its value would spread across the yard, because a consortium would be involved in fulfilling the auxiliaries contract. The other members of the consortium are Yarrow Shipbuilders and Yard, the leading warship design consultants, both private sector companies operating in the Glasgow area, and Royal Electronics, which is involved in the ship systems.

Harland is confidently claiming that in any independent audit of construction costs, the Belfast yard could demonstrate "a significantly higher competence". Nor did it get subsidies connected with MOD tenders. It also claims to have good industrial relations, with only 0.15 per cent of man-hours lost in the past 10 years through disputes, which it says is a better record than at Swan Hunter.

The sale of shares in newly privatized Vickers Shipbuilding and Engineering (VSEL) to employees and residents of Barrow-in-Furness and Birkenhead yesterday with every sign of having been oversubscribed. Lloyd's Merchant Bank, administering the sale, would say only that it was "very pleased" with the results and that it would make a full statement on Wednesday. Yesterday the company was inundated with last-minute applications.

Vickers, which is to build Trident submarines, was sold as a package with Cammell Laird by British Shipbuilders to a management-led consortium. A total of 6.95 million of the 35 million £1 ordinary shares were on offer.

closed but "significant" sum is being invested by both partners and production of the components is planned to start early next year at a plant in Ipswich which will employ about 150 people.

So far the components have been produced only in small quantities in British Telecom's laboratories. The joint venture is part of the increased commercialization of Marlesham since British Telecom's privatization.

BT&D is aiming for a substantial share of a worldwide market which is worth about £350 million a year.

Grampian Holdings, the Scottish holding company with interests in transport, clothes retailing, sporting goods and animal medicines, produced better-than-expected pretax profits of £3.4 million in 1985 against £1.7 million in 1984. The shares bounced 22p to a record 245p before easing back to 238p.

All divisions were strongly ahead, with operating profits in transport doubling as the division recovered from the miners' strike. Retail profits were 57 per cent higher and made up 40 per cent of the total.

This year should benefit from the contribution of Penfold Golf, bought last December, and from buoyant order books in sporting goods and medicines.

Further acquisitions of sporting brands are likely and retail is expected to expand its outlets. Grampian continues to talk to Burton Group about possible in-store concessions for its Glencles women's wear.

The company has a target of 20 per cent organic growth, which implies pretax profits of at least £4 million. Without acquisitions, gearing would be reduced to nil through positive cash flow, compared with 16 per cent at the end of 1985.

Discount house mergers threatened

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Two planned mergers of discount houses with financial services companies before the big bang in October were thrown into doubt yesterday by a development which took the sector by surprise on the stock market.

The board of Smith St Aubyn announced that it had received a rival offer to that put forward two weeks ago by Irving International Financial Corporation. It has advised shareholders to delay any decision on the Irving terms until details of the new offer have been announced, probably today.

At the same time Clive Discount, which last week announced an agreement for a full takeover by Bache Group International, the United States securities house, announced that Mr Robert Maxwell, the publisher, had purchased a 14 per cent stake in the company.

Mr Maxwell bought the shares late last week after the announcement of Bache's plans to buy an 80 per cent stake in Clive.

Mr Maxwell's motives were uncertain yesterday. One explanation favoured by experts in the City was that he hoped to push up the value of the Bache offer for Clive.

When Bache first bought a stake in Clive last year it also took an option to buy up to 33 per cent of the company at 57p a share — a premium of 50 per cent over the existing share price. The new terms announced last week retain the 50 per cent premium but value the shares at 50p each, giving a total cash value of £12 million.

The board of Smith St Aubyn would not disclose the identity of the new bidder yesterday but Mr Len Allen, a director, said: "It surprises us that the bidder has waited for so long. It is one of the organizations we have held talks with over the last nine months before agreeing to the link with Irving International."

He added: "In order to do the best for our shareholders we must recommend that they wait to see the new offer because it is worth that much more."

Irving's offer values the discount house at a maximum of 47.5p a share. The acceptance date is April 1.

Vinten release

Vinten Group is to pay £1 million to Computing Devices in return for being released from an advanced video recorder development contract placed with the Vinten Avionic Systems.

But he still faces a possible investigation by Australian corporate authorities, who said they would be assessing his withdrawal to see if it breached takeover rules. Commenting briefly on his withdrawal, he said legal action had delayed the bid being presented to BHP's 180,000 shareholders.

He said: "The fact of the matter is — they (BHP) may win, they may lose, but the bottom line is (that) there is a guaranteed extensive delay, preventing a bid getting into the hands of shareholders."

Meanwhile, BHP said it could seek permanent injunctions to prevent Bell making any further takeover bids.

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Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Opec puts paid to the cheap money mob

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries finally succeeded in getting a Nigel Lawson, but about six days too late. The postponement of the Opec ministerial meeting until April 15, by coincidence the day before the Chancellor's promised major speech on monetary policy, has put a damper on short-term hopes of lower base rates.

The Bank of England, having held back a baying mob of cheap money men at the end of last week, now looks secure with 11.5 per cent base rates at least until the Easter break, and probably until the provisional March money supply numbers on April 9.

The markets, having worked themselves up into a state of excitement over the prospect of another rate cut this week, did not hide their disappointment. The Opec non-agreement was reflected first in sterling's performance and then in higher money market interest rates.

The pound, down against a strong dollar but holding up well — and unusually with all the oil uncertainty — was unchanged at 75.9 on the sterling index. Money market rates firmed by ½ points, to just below 11.5 per cent for three-month interbank, and somewhat nearer to 11.75 per cent for one-month. There is nothing there to suggest an early rate cut.

Gilts lost some of last week's strong gains, ending down by about a point at the long end and, for the first time in many a day, the market was beginning to look tired and lacking lustre. Two of Friday's taplets were snapped up quite promptly but even this failed to lift flagging spirits.

The end of the Budget honeymoon was also evident in the equity market, with the FT 30-share index dropping back through 1400 at a speed suggesting that all the talk of the new improved outlook for the British economy after oil, personal equity plans and the rest, has been forgotten. The ascent from 1300 to 1400 was accomplished in less than a fortnight. The climb to 1500 is going to take a bit longer.

Barclays coup

The emerging financial conglomerate, Barclays de Zoete Wedd, has pulled off one of its biggest recruitment coups; yesterday it revealed that it had attracted John Padovan into the fold. The plan is for Mr Padovan to head the corporate finance department at Barclays Merchant Bank and to take over control of the whole of BZW's corporate finance activities when the departments of BMB and de Zoete are merged at

some undetermined point in the future.

Mr Padovan's value as a corporate finance expert is widely acknowledged. In City circles he is accorded much of the credit for building up County Bank's impressive client list in the 15 years he was there as director, chief executive and finally chairman. The breadth of his contacts is well known and as a man who already has long experience of working within a merchant bank which is only part of a much larger organisation he must have seemed an ideal candidate to the Barclays mandarins.

This is, however, the second time in less than two years that Mr Padovan has surprised the City with a sudden change of job. His sudden decision to leave County Bank 18 months ago still remains something of a mystery, though there appears to have been growing friction with the top management of National Westminster who may have been reluctant to give Mr Padovan the recognition within the organisation that he felt he deserved.

The biggest loser in his current move is likely to be Hambros where he went from County as deputy chairman. Hambros was visibly delighted at his arrival, treating it as an endorsement of the quality of the bank. Mr Padovan's rapid departure may be a consequence of not having liked what he saw at Hambros from close quarters. The bank is somewhat rudderless at present, at one moment announcing a strong policy of moving into the retail financial services market, the next moment announcing a major change in ownership structure as half the family pulled out of the bank. Mr Padovan's impact on Hambros has not been visible over the last year and a half — but that is perhaps not long enough for any concrete results to show through.

Another explanation for his rapid moves may simply be that he anticipated the City revolution too soon and felt that he was not best placed as the shape of things to come became clearer. At BZW his task will be to build up a strong UK and international corporate finance business from the relatively small foundations at BMB and de Zoete. BZW is clearly taking a characteristically aggressive approach to corporate finance business and the recruitment of further senior people as part of this move must be expected.

Mr Padovan refutes the charge that he is simply a bird of passage staying nowhere long by pointing to his years at County Bank. Continuity is also being maintained by his involvement in Imperial Group's defence. Conveniently, while Hambros are merchant bank advisers to Imperial Group, de Zoete are the company's brokers.

BUSINESS IN PORTUGAL MEANS TAP FROM HEATHROW

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MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York
Dow Jones 1780.25 (+11.73)
Tokyo
Nikkei Dow 14975.23 (-37.98)
Hong Kong
Hang Seng 1635.25 (+23.56)
Amsterdam Gen 262.9 (-0.6)
Sydney: AO 1155.7 (+18.5)
Frankfurt
Commerzbank 2043.7 (-11.8)
Brussels
General 447.83 (-18.87)
Paribas CAC 346.5 (+6.8)
Zurich
SKA General 509.4 (same)

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM \$352.40 pm \$350.20
close \$350.50-\$351.00 (£235.75-
\$26.50)
New York:
Comex \$351.70-\$352.20

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISERS:
Beechell 304p +15p
Brit Aero 605p +14p
Comcap 307p +12p
Tunstall Telecom 530p +28p
Trinity Ind 350p +10p
Boehr 233p +15p
Grampian Heds 403p +15p
Lowes Howard 403p +15p
Bradford 810p +25p
Cardiff Prop 220p +20p

CURRENCIES

London:
£/\$ 1.4900
£/DM 3.4039
£/Sfr 2.0641
£/FF 110.4561
£/Yen 266.41
£/index 75.9

INTEREST RATES

London:
Bank Base 11½%
3-month interbank 11½-11¾%
3-month eligible bills 11½-11¾%
buying rate
Prime Rate 9%
Federal Funds 7¼%
3-month Treasury Bills 8.42-8.40%
30-year bonds 115½-115¾

FALLS:

BP 553p -17p
ICI 987p -24p
Natwest 227p -12p
Delta Grp 375p -35p
Amstrad 414p -12p
Rowntree 505p -18p
Oxycene 625p -35p
DRG 294p -12p
Freemans 414p -10p
Barton 332p -14p
Syst 236p -20p
Standard Chartered 644p -13p
Martin Ford 97p -17p

COMMODITIES

Aug	108.5	108.5
Sept	108.5	108.5
Oct	108.2	108.2
Nov	110.5	110.5
Jan	103.3	103.3
Feb	103.5	102

Vol 4

**LONDON MEAT
FUTURES EXCHANGE**
Beef Contract

Month	Open	Close
April	198.0	193.
May	198.5	189
June	192.0	188
July	190.0	185
Aug	185.0	165
Sept	183.5	162

Vol

**LONDON
POTATO FUTURES**

Month	Open	Close
April	102.00	102.00
May	710.30	110.00
June	78.00	78.00
Nov	50.00	50.00
Feb	100.00	101.00
April		Vol 28

BHFEX		
G.M.I. Freight Futures Last		
Report \$10 per index point		
Weight Index		
	High/Low	Close
April 88	645.0-645.0	645
Oct 88	750.0-747.0	75
Jan 89		75
Jan 87	670.0-670.0	670
April 87		34
July 87		37
Oct 87		37
Jan 88		91
Spec/739.0		Vol 70

TANKER REPORT		
	Close	Vol
Mar 88	\$15.0	84
April 88	73.0	78
May 88	72.0	78
June 88	72.5	78
Sept 88	55.0	78
Dec 88	\$57.5	78

75	177	23	17	23
100	180	24	18	24
105	183	25	19	25
108	186	26	20	26
110	189	27	21	27
112	192	28	22	28
114	195	29	23	29
116	198	30	24	30
118	201	31	25	31
120	204	32	26	32
122	207	33	27	33
124	210	34	28	34
126	213	35	29	35
128	216	36	30	36
130	219	37	31	37
132	222	38	32	38
134	225	39	33	39
136	228	40	34	40
138	231	41	35	41
140	234	42	36	42
142	237	43	37	43
144	240	44	38	44
146	243	45	39	45
148	246	46	40	46
150	249	47	41	47
152	252	48	42	48
154	255	49	43	49
156	258	50	44	50
158	261	51	45	51
160	264	52	46	52
162	267	53	47	53
164	270	54	48	54
166	273	55	49	55
168	276	56	50	56
170	279	57	51	57
172	282	58	52	58
174	285	59	53	59
176	288	60	54	60
178	291	61	55	61
180	294	62	56	62
182	297	63	57	63
184	300	64	58	64
186	303	65	59	65
188	306	66	60	66
190	309	67	61	67
192	312	68	62	68
194	315	69	63	69
196	318	70	64	70
198	321	71	65	71
200	324	72	66	72
202	327	73	67	73
204	330	74	68	74
206	333	75	69	75
208	336	76	70	76
210	339	77	71	77
212	342	78	72	78
214	345	79	73	79
216	348	80	74	80
218	351	81	75	81
220	354	82	76	82
222	357	83	77	83
224	360	84	78	84
226	363	85	79	85
228	366	86	80	86
230	369	87	81	87
232	372	88	82	88
234	375	89	83	89
236	378	90	84	90
238	381	91	85	91
240	384	92	86	92
242	387	93	87	93
244	390	94	88	94
246	393	95	89	95
248	396	96	90	96
250	399	97	91	97
252	402	98	92	98
254	405	99	93	99
256	408	100	94	100
258	411			
260	414			
262	417			
264	420			
266	423			
268	426			
270	429			

	Mid	Other	Chng
1974	730.4	728.6	+1.8
1975	732.2	687	+45.2
1976	733.3	712.9	+20.4
1977	735.5	703.2	+32.3
1978	743	684	+59
1979	745.5	714.4	+31.1
1980	753	715.9	+37.1
1981	755.5	743	+12.5
1982	757	745.5	+11.5
1983	761	745	+16
1984	765.5	745.5	+20
1985	767	745.5	+21.5
1986	767.5	745.5	+22
1987	767.5	745.5	+22
1988	767.5	745.5	+22
1989	767.5	745.5	+22
1990	767.5	745.5	+22
1991	767.5	745.5	+22

Pop	21.1	24.3	+15
Pop 15+	17.1	19.3	+13
Pop 18+	17.4	19.6	+13
Pop 25+	13.4	15.2	+14
Pop 35+	10.1	11.4	+13
Pop 45+	7.3	8.1	+11
Pop 55+	5.9	6.5	+10
Pop 65+	3.8	4.0	+5
Pop 75+	1.8	1.9	+5
Pop 85+	0.8	0.8	+5
Pop 95+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 100+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 105+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 110+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 115+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 120+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 125+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 130+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 135+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 140+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 145+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 150+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 155+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 160+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 165+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 170+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 175+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 180+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 185+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 190+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 195+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 200+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 205+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 210+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 215+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 220+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 225+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 230+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 235+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 240+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 245+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 250+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 255+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 260+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 265+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 270+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 275+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 280+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 285+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 290+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 295+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 300+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 305+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 310+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 315+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 320+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 325+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 330+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 335+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 340+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 345+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 350+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 355+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 360+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 365+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 370+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 375+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 380+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 385+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 390+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 395+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 400+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 405+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 410+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 415+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 420+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 425+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 430+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 435+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 440+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 445+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 450+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 455+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 460+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 465+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 470+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 475+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 480+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 485+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 490+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 495+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 500+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 505+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 510+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 515+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 520+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 525+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 530+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 535+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 540+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 545+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 550+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 555+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 560+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 565+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 570+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 575+	0.1	0.1	+5
Pop 580+	0.1		

[illegible]

1992	1172	1062
1993	1125	1182
1994	1173	1248
MANAGEMENT		
President, Finance, EDNA 201-		
3053		
1992	1170	1062
1993	2545	2701
1994	1170	1182
1995	1173	1248
1996	1243	1229
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2104	1243	1229
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2106	1243	1229
2107	1243	1229
2108	1243	1229
2109	1243	1229

[illegible]

TEMPUS

The glory departs from Sovereign

Nobody can be too surprised that Sovereign Oil and Gas will not pay a dividend this year.

At the rights issue in October 1984, the directors declared their intention to pay a dividend for 1985, beginning with an interim at the half-year stage. No interim was paid and, it was announced yesterday, there will be no final either.

Even with oil at under £10 per barrel, Sovereign's 1986 oil production will be roughly equal to last year's. Cash-flows, however, are likely to be more than halved.

With the rest of the independent oil sector, Sovereign will scale down its exploration programme, only to find that it is cutting off its nose to spite its face. This is because it has three of a five-year contract still to run on the Sovereign Explorer, a third-generation semi-submersible drilling rig. This is designed for the deep and difficult waters of the northern North Sea, where Sovereign has extensive acreage.

It had intended to use the rig largely for its own operations, but Sovereign can ill afford to look for oil in difficult places, especially as the discoveries will be uncommercial until the oil price recovers significantly.

The next well to be spudded when the weather improves, is likely to be a Sovereign well, probably a firm-in. Thereafter, there are no fixed commitments. The company can negotiate a much lower stacking rate if the rig is unemployed, but it can do without the cash outflow.

The squeeze on Sovereign's profits will be mitigated by the arrangement with Marathon over the financing of Brae. Only 60 per cent of cash-flows from Brae needs to be used to make interest and principal payments. If there is insufficient cash-flow to pay the interest, it is rolled up into the loan.

While the Brae project looks secure, the rest of Sovereign's interests are in a very different position. The balance of its production comes from units in the Forties and Claymore fields. These were bought with a combination of cash from the rights issue and limited re-

course loans when the oil price was more than twice its present level.

Steeltek

Three years ago an unwanted bid from Hepworth Ceramic Holdings galvanised Steeltek into a re-orientation which has pushed up its profits from less than £10 million in 1982 to last year's £36.8 million - and that despite the tail-end of the miners' strike which took about £1 million off the 1985 figures.

Construction materials now account for approaching 60 per cent of profits, capital investment has been high over the past two years and net debt is down to 15 per cent of shareholders' funds.

After a sluggish first-half, due to bad weather, profits moved ahead by 20 per cent in the rest of the year and the British operations more than made up the ground lost at half-time. The British brick market declined by about 4.5 per cent, but Steeltek claims to have slightly increased its market share.

Indeed, the £12.5 million Parkhouse factory was commissioned and is running at full capacity. Its new range of high-margin, "designer" bricks will be launched next month and the plant's efficiency is such that Steeltek should be well placed in a future fall in demand.

In North America, the rationalization at the Canadian distribution business brought a £2 million turnaround into profit and further growth should come through this year now that the number of branches has declined from 57 to 42.

Last year's figures were also helped by more than £1 million off the interest charge and a £1 million increase from the property company. Against this, the 3 per cent drop in turnover was more than accounted for by the Australian operations which were disposed of in 1984 - when they also contributed almost £1 million of profits.

Steeltek is now in a mood for further expansion and after several small purchases last year, particularly three quarries in France, the company is keen to flex its acquisitive muscles again.

Yesterday's figures - accu-

ately anticipated by the City - left the shares 6p lower at 460p, at which they are selling at 11 times prospective earnings, assuming profits of £43 million this year. This is comfortably lower than the likes of Tarmac and Redland and bid possibilities are in for nothing.

Freemans

Freemans, the mail order house, is doing its best to hold on to its newly acquired reputation for growth. Shareholders, who have seen their shares rise from 280p to 414p in just six months, may be tempted to take profits, but there is no hurry.

Yesterday the company announced a 27 per cent increase in profits to £28 million before tax. That disguises a second-half slowdown, but the new level of increase should be sustainable. While retail sales rose by 8.8 per cent last year, mail order sales increased by 10.6 per cent, with Freemans lifting its share of the market to 13.9 per cent.

Freemans has taken business from its rivals by producing new and more specialized catalogues. Together, a 50 per cent-owned associate which trades through concessions in shops as well as through its own catalogue, was extremely successful, contributing £1.29 million in its first year. This year's new product is Bymail, a fashion catalogue, for which the company has high hopes.

There are plans for a third outlet next year. This should keep the momentum going, though much depends on the pattern of consumer spending this year. Below the line, there will again be help from a lower tax charge, though not on the scale of last year, when it benefited from a favourable settlement of a case against the Inland Revenue. Profits after tax rose by 45.6 per cent.

That increase is unlikely to be repeated this year, so there is no reason to expect the shares to outperform by last year's margin of 60 per cent. They are selling on nearly 14 times prospective earnings, which is roughly in line with the other mail order companies and is not over-ambitious.

Silver lining amid the gloom

The 35-point setback on Wall Street on Friday at the adjournment of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries talks without specific agreement provided reason enough for widespread profit-taking yesterday.

Most dealers were happy to see what they regarded as a healthy correction to the non-stop advance in share prices. But the mood was not all gloom as illustrated by pockets of interest generated by trading statements, press tips and takeover developments.

Gills also resisted the trend with gains of a quarter supported by sterling's relatively steady performance against continental currencies. The Government Broker was able to sell out a tablet issued only on Friday.

The FT-30 index tumbled no fewer than 17.6 points to close at 1394.6 while the more broadly based FT-SE 100 fell even further - 24.4 points - to close at 1663.9.

Oils were particularly vulnerable on the outcome of the Opec discussions. BP lost 17p to 553p while Lloyds dipped 12p to 128p ahead of today's results.

Among the FT-30 shares, ICI were particularly vulnerable at 967p, down 24p, after an accusation by the Common Market that it was a member

of a European chemical price-fixing ring.

Falls elsewhere were mainly between 5p and 12p but banks suffered again with National Westminster down 18p to 897p.

In contrast, P & O rose 7p to 548p in anticipation of good results today: analysts are hoping for profits of around £126 million against £70 million last year. Imperial Group were another to find support at 347p, up 4p, awaiting further developments from the takeover front.

Consumer sectors, which have been doing so well since the Budget, fell back over a broad front. Among stores, Burton at 332p, Style, 236p, and Gas A, 958p, declined 12p to 20p. Combined English, reporting today, added 4p to 240p and press comment lifted Ward White 6p to 296p.

Breweries tumbled behind the lead of Allied Lyons, at 326p down 10p. Builders had Barratt Developments another 10p lower at 130p after disappointing interim profits while Steeltek softened 6p to 460p despite a 13 per cent earnings expansion.

Last week's recovery prompted another 15p rise in Bestobell at 304p but Friday's disappointing profits knocked another 12p from Delta Group

at 227p. British Aerospace were flying high at 606p, up 15p. The company, which has won another £70 million Rapier contract from the Government, is set to produce profits in excess of £155 million today.

Among high-technology issues, a 40 per cent profit increase failed to help MEMEC, at 375p down 35p, and Magnetic Materials also disappointed at 85p, down 30p. In contrast, press comment boosted Tussell Telecom 25p to 330p.

S & W Berisford hardened another 3p to 233p awaiting takeover news. Iceland Frozen Foods added 5p to 559p ahead of today's figures.

Profit-taking lopped 35p off Octopus at 625p and 12p from DRG at 294p but in public relations/advertising sectors Addison Page, at 280p, and Chetwynd Street, at 153p, advanced 30p and 10p on the merger plans.

Low Howard, with figures due tomorrow, climbed a further 15p to 403p while a management shake-up stimulated Saatchi & Saatchi, up 10p to 985p.

Better-than-expected profits failed to support Freemans, at 414p down 10p. BAT Industries gave up 8p to 393p ahead of tomorrow's results.

In chemicals, Brent added 4p to 149p after a 23p improvement in earnings but lower profits knocked 12p from Hickson International at 416p. Booker rose 10p to 350p ahead of today's figures.

Bumper profits and scrip proposals lifted Cranplan Holdings 15p to 238p. Barrow Hepburn also pleased at 56p, up 4p.

Scattered gains in properties included Bradford at 535p, Warner Estates, 810p, Car diff, 230p, and Marler Es-

tates, 260p, all between 10p and 25p higher. Adverse comment upset Aitken Hume, at 148p down 10p. Smith St Aubyn improved 3p to 44p on news of another bid approach. Among overseas banks, Standard Chartered slipped 13p to 544p ahead of today's results with pre-tax profits expected to exceed £240 million.

In dull insurances, Prudential lost 8p to 884p, also ahead of figures today. In mines, bid speculation faded at Rio Tinto-Zinc, down 15p to 742p.

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES		SPP (125p)		RIGHTS ISSUES	
Abbott M V (180p)	230 -3	Templeton (215p)	158 -1	Cullens N/P	75
Ashley (135p)	219 -6	Signet (101p)	85	Kearfoot (118p)	115 -5
BPP (160p)	195	Snowdon & B (97p)	117 +3	Lexicon (115p)	104
Brookmount (160p)	182 +2	Spice (80p)	96	Macro 4 (105p)	149 +2
Chert Fl (86p)	94	Tech Comp (130p)	211	Marvale M (115p)	144
Chancery Secs (83p)	78 -2	Underwoods (180p)	185 -2	Norank Sys (90p)	112 -4
Conv 9% A 2000	229	Wellcome (120p)	214 -3	Really Useful (330p)	350
Cranwick M (95p)	107	W York Hosp (90p)	78	SAC Int'l (100p)	138
Dialene (128p)	200	Wicks (140p)	173 -2		
Ferguson (J) (10p)	32				
Granya Surface (55p)	86				
Inoco (55p)	47				
JS Pathology (160p)	290				
Jarvis Porter (105p)	135 -3				
Kearfoot (118p)	121 +1				
Lexicon (115p)	138 -1				
Macro 4 (105p)	144				
Marvale M (115p)	112 -4				
Norank Sys (90p)	350				
Really Useful (330p)	138				
SAC Int'l (100p)	138				

(Issue price in brackets).

COMPANY NEWS

● **AGA GROUP:** Dividend 4 krona (3.67 krona) for 1985. Sales 9,755 million krona (£912 million), against 5,632 million krona. Consolidated net income 337 million krona (250 million krona).

● **BROKEN HILL PROPRIETARY:** Nine months to Feb. 28. Pretax profit Aus \$1.53 billion (£742 million), against Aus \$1.03 billion. Sales Aus \$6.53 billion (Aus \$4.98 billion).

● **JARDINE MATHESON HOLDINGS:** Net loss for 1985 HK \$269 million (£23 million), against a loss of HK \$793 million. Turnover HK \$10.50 billion (HK \$8.88 billion). Total dividend unchanged at 10 cents a share.

● **POSEIDON:** Half-year to Dec. 31, 1985. Net profit Aus \$332,000 (£255,000), against Aus \$3.10 million. Turnover Aus \$13.22 million (Aus \$3.91 million). The company is to raise Aus \$14.4 million by a rights issue.

● **GARFUNKELS RESTAURANTS:** Total dividend for 1985 1.3p (0.65p). Turnover £22.27 million (£18.09 million). Pretax profit £3.4 million (£2.11 million). Earnings per share 7.3p (4.4p adjusted).

● **SEAGRAM CO:** Year to Jan. 31, 1986. Sales and other income £2,970.66 million (£2,821.24 million). Pretax income \$132.64 million (£88 million), against \$157.55 million.

● **TRINITY INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS:** Total dividend for 1985 15p (12.2p). Turnover £83.36 million (£76.32 million). Profit, before tax and extraordinary items, £6.69 million (£6.54 million). Earnings per share 39.3p (34.9p).

● **THOMAS ROBINSON:** No dividend (nil) for 1985. Turnover £10.14 million (£11.37 million). Pretax profit £411,000 (£507,000). Earnings per share 7.3p (9.7p).

● **GEORGE OLIVER (FOOTWEAR):** Total dividend for 1985 9p (8p). Turnover £42.88 million (£38.71 million). Pretax profit £1.41 million (£1.68 million). Earnings per share 22.37p (33.59p).

More company news on page 27

● **BESTOBELL:** Total dividend for 1985 6p (5.7p). Sales £141.47 million (£150.09 million). Pretax profit £5.08 million (£471,000). Earnings per share 19.8p (loss 10.3p).

● **PLEASURAMA:** Results for 1985, compared with the previous 15 months. Total dividend 7.5p (5.75p). Turnover £160.1 million (£108.47 million). Pretax profit £37.52 million (£25.25 million). Earnings per share: basic, 25.3p (21.2p adjusted) and fully diluted, 20.7p (nil).

● **FROGMORE ESTATES:** For the six months December 31 the interim dividend is 1.945p (1.768p). The figures are in £000: Turnover 15,418 (17,073), profit before before tax 5,122 (4,636), tax 1,835 (1,855) and earnings per share 9.5p.

● **BRENT CHEMICALS:** The final dividend is 3.35p (2.75p), making 4.2p (3.5p). The figures are in £000: Sales 53,278 (51,507), profit before interest, tax and extraordinary items 6,279 (5,098), interest payable-net 377 (286) pretax profit 5,902 (4,812) and tax 1,925 (1,650).

● **ASSOCIATED STEEL DISTRIBUTORS:** The final dividend is 4p, making 8p (nil) for last year. The figures are in £000: Turnover 60,285 (40,275), profit before tax 2,615 (1,589), tax 929 (812), minority interest credit nil (136) and profit attributable 1,686 (1,141).

● **HIGHLAND AND LOWLANDS BERHAD:** The group's results for the year to December 31, 1985 are as follows: final dividend 8.75 cents, making 15 cents gross (22.5 cents). With figures in \$ millions, turnover was 132,950 (147,781) investment and other income 20,158 (20,997), operating profit 60,590 (80,780) profit of associated companies 69 (nil), pretax profit 60,659 (80,780) (after depreciation and amortization 6,055 (5,536), tax 24,425 (36,343) minority debt 269 (nil) extraordinary 57,467 (debt 880) profit attributable 93,432 (43,537).

BASE LENDING RATES

ABN	12½%
Adams & Company	11½%
BCCI	11½%
Citibank Savings	12½%
Consolidated Crds	12½%
Continental Trust	11½%
Co-operative Bank	11½%
C. Moore & Co	11½%
Lloyds Bank	11½%
Nat Westminster	11½%
Royal Bank of Scotland	11½%
TSB	11½%
Citibank NA	11½%

† Mortgage Base Rate.

HICKSON INTERNATIONAL PLC

Highlights from the Report and Accounts for 1985

	Year ended 31 December	
	1985	1984
	£m	£m
Turnover	148.0	133.7
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	13.1	15.0
Earnings for ordinary shareholders	7.5	8.7
Total ordinary dividend	2.9	2.7
Earnings - pence per share	39	45
Dividend - pence per share	15	14

"Group performance was affected during 1985 by severe competition in the chemical industry and dull market conditions; the recession in the building industry and currency devaluations which reduced the sterling value of profits arising in South Africa, New Zealand and Australia."

"Demand for chemicals increased in the early part of 1986 and the overall trend in profits is showing signs of improvement."

"Merchant Distributors has made excellent progress..."

M. Hoppley Chairman

The above information is an abridged version of the group's full accounts which have not yet been filed with the Registrar of Companies but on which the company's auditors have given an unqualified opinion.

The full Report and Accounts will be circulated to shareholders on 9 April 1986 and will then be available from the Secretary, Hickson International PLC, Castleford, West Yorkshire, WF10 2JT

HICKSON

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STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Widespread profit-taking

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began March 10. Dealings end March 27. Settlement day, April 1. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

THE TIMES Portfolio

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total prize money. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E
1	INDUSTRIALS A - D					
2	Blackwood Hodge	34	28	30	1.0	2.5
3	Ash & Lacey	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
4	Barlow Rand	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
5	Domestic Int	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
6	Biddle	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
7	Bentley (S & W)	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
8	Br Vira	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
9	Benson Clarke	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
10	APV	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
11	Electricals	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
12	Forward Tech	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
13	Scientific Mach	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
14	Cambridge Elec	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
15	UEI	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
16	Western Selection	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
17	Cray Elec	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
18	Newman	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
19	Electronic Rentals	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
20	Ferraro	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
21	Ind Scientific	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
22	INDUSTRIALS S - Z					
23	Stockline	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
24	Skidwell	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
25	Scull Pottery	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
26	Wey	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
27	Tex Ridge	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
28	Watsons	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
29	Star Furniture	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
30	Star Comp	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
31	BUILDING AND ROADS					
32	Travis & Arnold	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
33	Lovell (V)	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
34	Countryside	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
35	Redland	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
36	Wilson (Consolid)	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
37	Higgs & Hill	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
38	Mander	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
39	May & Hannell	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
40	Griff	10	8	9	0.5	1.5
41	Stanford Concrete	10	8	9	0.5	1.5

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £20,000 in Friday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

BRITISH FUNDS

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

UNDATED

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

INDEX-LINKED

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

ELECTRICALS

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

CINEMAS AND TV

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

DRAPERY AND STORES

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

INDUSTRIALS A-D

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

INDUSTRIALS S-Z

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

FINANCE AND LAND

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

FOODS

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

HOTELS AND CATERERS

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

OVERSEAS TRADERS

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

PROPERTY

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

SHIPPING

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

SHOES AND LEATHER

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

TEXTILES

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

TOBACCO

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

OIL

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

S-Z

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

L-R

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

INSURANCE

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

LEISURE

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

MINING

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

OVERSEAS TRADERS

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

PROPERTY

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

SHIPPING

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

SHOES AND LEATHER

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

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1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

S-Z

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

L-R

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

INSURANCE

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

LEISURE

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

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1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

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1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

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1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

SHIPPING

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

SHOES AND LEATHER

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

TEXTILES

1985/86 High	1985/86 Low	1985/86 Close	1985/86 Div	1985/86 P/E

TOBACCO

Why banks are keeping more risks off their balance sheets

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

The banking supervisory machinery in most industrialized countries is grinding into top gear to deal with a problem that only relatively few people can claim to understand fully.

The problem is that of "off-balance sheet risk": how to regulate it and how to evaluate the dangers it throws up in comparison with ordinary banking business.

The arcane nature of much off-balance sheet risk makes the problem of supervision all

Sliding deeper into the bog of international debt crisis

the more complex, but this is no mere sideshow in the mainstream of banking business. Off-balance sheet risk of one sort or another has risen sharply in importance over the past three years.

No reliable figures exist for the City or anywhere else to show exactly how big the business has become. Indeed

the lack of standardized information is one of the chief problems the Bank of England is setting out to tackle.

But it is clear that many banks, large and small, have taken on commitments worth hundreds of millions of pounds which have so far slipped through the supervisors' net.

Off-balance sheet risk comes in many forms but, in general, it involves taking on a commitment rather than making a direct loan. The bank earns fee income from its clients for taking on the commitment, rather than earning interest as it would from a conventional loan.

The transaction does not, therefore, appear on the bank's balance sheet, but there is undeniably a risk.

The main reasons for the sudden popularity of this business lie in the basic change in banking over the past few years. As banks slid deeper

into the bog of the international debt crisis in the early 1980s, their credit ratings

slipped and clients began to shy away from them.

At the same time the trend towards securitization of debt offered a neat way for corporate customers to bypass bank lending. The only way for the business was to stand in as intermediaries, arranging deals between principals rather than acting directly as lender or borrower.

Many banks may not understand the nature and size of the risks

Bankers have exercised their ingenuity in finding increasingly sophisticated ways of doing this, but supervisors are worried that many banks do not fully understand the nature and size of the risks they are taking.

Take a standby arrangement, for example. Most note

issuance facilities involve paper being issued by a commercial borrower and a guarantee by the bank arranging the deal to provide funds if the liquidity of the paper market dries up.

How often banks will be called on to honour these commitments is not known, but the Bank believes that the risk is greater than, say, with a traditional overdraft.

It remains to be seen what risk-asset weightings the supervisors produce to put beside the weightings laid down for conventional banking business.

It is possible that they will vary from country to country, giving the banks of some countries a competitive advantage, although banking supervisors from the Group of Ten industrialized countries committed themselves in the recent Basle Committee report to a policy of minimizing inequalities.

Whatever the outcome, it will be an important addition to the structure of banking supervision in all Western countries.

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367.2p

UNITED BISCUITS BID WORTH:

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HANSON BID BETTER BY:

+36.5p

Figures based on the market prices at 3.30pm on Monday.

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CONTINUING GROWTH FROM BASIC BUSINESSES.

The values of Hanson Trust's and United Biscuits' offers depend on their respective share prices. The above offer values are for Hanson Trust's Share and Convertible Stock Election and United Biscuits' Offer. The offer values take account of estimates by Moore Goven Ltd. of the values at the relevant ordinary share prices, of the 10% convertible loan stock of Hanson and the convertible preferred shares of United Biscuits.

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"Mozart's Coronation Mass in C (K317)"

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£10,000 plus	8.50% net
CAPITAL BONDS (26TH ISSUE)	8.50% net

The rate of interest on all existing Capital Bonds will be decreased by 1.00% from 1 April 1986. The guaranteed extra interest paid on all existing Capital Bonds continues unchanged.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS 5.75% net

OTHER INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS

The rate of interest paid on all other investment accounts except Treasury Accounts will be decreased by 1.00% from 1 April 1986.

MORTGAGES: NEW ADVANCES 12.00%
The rate of interest charged on all mortgages for new owner occupier borrowers is 12.00%.

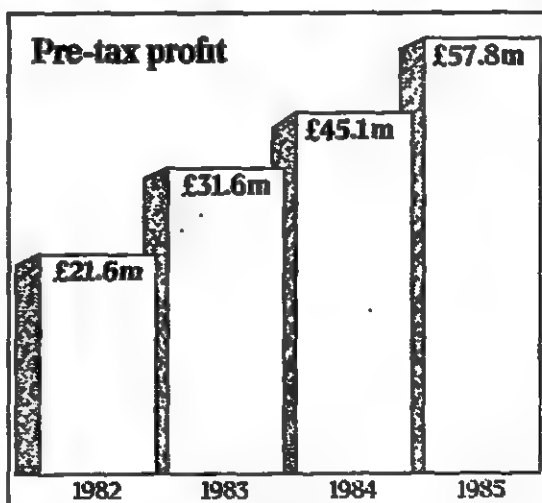
MORTGAGES: EXISTING 12.00%
The rate of interest charged on all mortgages for owner occupier borrowers will be 12.00% from 1 April 1986 and the lower level of repayments will apply from that date.



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IMI in 1985



A record year

Profits up 28% to £57.8m
Earnings up 39% to £40.1m
Dividend up 16.7% to 5.25p
Net borrowings down by £31m

Sir Robert Clark, Chairman, reports on an encouraging year.

"Our sales, pre-tax profits, return on assets and earnings per share are all records for the Company.

"Margins, at the pre-tax stage, were up overall from 4.7 per cent in 1983 and 6.1 per cent in 1984 to 7.5 per cent.

"Of our total sales, 52.6 per cent were made in the UK, 16.1 per cent by export from the UK and 31.3 per cent from overseas manufacture.

"We achieved the greatest improvement in refined and wrought metals, and two activities were primarily responsible: IMI Refiners and titanium, where turnover and product mix benefited from a substantial uplift in aerospace demand which seems set to continue for at least two or three years.

"In fluid power we made further progress on the excellent performance reported in 1984. Our general engineering and building products activities also did significantly better, as did heat exchange.

"In special-purpose valves our advance was more modest, but we were encouraged by some upturn towards the year-end. Only in drinks dispense were we unable quite to match last year's record figures, but the outcome was by no means unsatisfactory, and our confidence of future profits growth from this sector remains high.

"Our employees throughout the world have put a great deal of effective and dedicated work into achievement of these figures, and I express the Board's gratitude to them all.

"The current year has started well in most of our business areas, and I am confident of our ability to build further on our recent success."

Summary of results	1985 £m	1984 £m
Turnover	766.2	737.9
Trading profit	63.7	52.6
Profit before taxation	57.8	45.1
Earnings applicable to shareholders (excluding extraordinary items)	40.1	28.9
Earnings per share (excluding extraordinary items)	14.9p	10.7p
Dividend per share	5.25p	4.5p

The Annual Report, which contains a comprehensive review of IMI's activities will be published on 24th April. If you would like a copy please complete the coupon:
To: The Secretary, IMI plc, P.O. Box 216, Birmingham B6 7BA.
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WSL HOLDINGS PLC

(Incorporated in England with registered No. 222271)

Introduction of
17,921,046 new ordinary shares of
5p each of WSL Holdings plc

Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the whole of the share capital of WSL Holdings plc, issued and to be issued, to be admitted to the Official List.

Listing Particulars will be circulated in the Extel Statistical Services and copies of the Listing Particulars may be obtained during usual business hours on any weekday, except Saturdays and public holidays up to and including 15th April, 1986, from:

WSL Holdings plc,
8 & 9 Lincoln's Inn Fields,
London WC2A 3DW

Lloyds Merchant Bank Limited,
40-66 Queen Victoria Street,
London EC4P 4EL

L. Messel & Co.,
P.O. Box 521, 1 Finsbury Avenue,
London EC2M 2QE

Copies of the Listing Particulars will also be available until 27th March, 1986 from the Company Announcements Office, The Stock Exchange, London EC2P 2BT.

25th March, 1986

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SPECIAL PURPOSE VALVES GENERAL ENGINEERING REFINED AND WROUGHT METALS

COMMODITIES REVIEW

Faith keeps the sugar price sweet

"Anticipation", the wise man said, "is enough to keep the market brewing lightly". Although it was not tea he had in mind the metaphor was more or less apt because sugar prices have risen by more than two cents to all of 7.5 cents a pound.

It sounds modest enough. But by the sugar market's recent standards it is cause for celebration. The idea is firmly abroad that the long slump is over and sugar prices are on the way up.

Three categories of argument support this. They divide happily into past, present and future - perhaps better classified as wisdom after the event, half knowledge, and faith. But since all are common to commodity market analysts they must be accepted as part of the real world.

The argument derived from the past is the crop cycle.

Sugar cycles are believed to run over six years from trough to peak. The last two bull markets conveniently reached their climax in 1974 and 1980. Perhaps we should not turn the precise number of years into a fetish, but the logic is reasonable. Expanding or reducing the volume of any crop takes time, including the realization by farmers, refiners, governments, traders and consumers that prices are too high or too low for their particular needs.

By way of a diversion, one might speculate about the same phenomenon in other farm commodities. Wheat is cheap, cocoa is middling, and coffee expensive. These very different foods do not necessarily have the same cycle, of course. But the fact that their prices are rising, could rise soon or are not bad suddenly makes the gloomy talk of all those bear markets a little less depressing. Perhaps the next

couple of years will not be so grim for primary producers after all.

Anyway, back to sugar. Within the six-year cycle even longer term trends are evident. Consumption in developed countries is static or falling, partly because of slow population growth, but also because of taste and price changes which have favoured either artificial sweeteners or fewer sweeteners altogether.

Consumption in developing countries has been restrained by the slump and until recently by the strong dollar. It is noticeable that the increase in consumption over the past 15 years from 76 million tonnes to a forecast 98 or 99 million in 1985-86 decelerated sharply after 1983-84.

Nevertheless, there is immediate evidence for a price rise this year. The analysts agree that there is likely to be a supply shortfall - the first since 1980. The deficit will be

a modest one million tonnes and stocks of 39 million tonnes will still represent 40 per cent of annual consumption.

The stocks seem high, but analysts are always a little sceptical about their own stock figures. The initial reports on which the statistics are based are unreliable and some of the stored sugar may not be suitable for consumption.

The key here is production. The long-term factor is the slow adjustment of output to low prices. Nobody can make money from sugar at less than 12-14 cents a pound, and even then only the very cheapest would survive - for example, some parts of Brazil. At the less than 3 cents prevailing last year - probably the lowest real prices ever - it was inevitable that farmers would start to grow less sugar. Production is likely to be lower in Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Brazil, Argentina, the Philippines and South Africa.

In some instances special forces are at work. A combination of drought and Hurricane Kate cut Cuban crop from eight million tonnes to between six and seven million.

Cuba will have to find on the open market the difference which it is committed to sell to customers, and that is an important source of the anticipation in the trade.

But, such accidents always happen, and not all are accidents. Even the acreage sown

in the European Community is forecast to fall by 2-3 per cent as the less generous sugar regime begins to change farmers' views about the profitability of the market. Governments simply cannot continue to protect their national sugar industries indefinitely when production costs are a sizeable multiple of freely traded prices.

The process, however, is only just beginning. One analyst said: "Real structural change is not yet with us". Yet the anticipation of such change is encouraging the market. A price of 8 or 9 cents is conceivable if towards the end of the year the 1986-87 statistics also look favourable.

Enter faith. Will producers continue to cut back? Have governments really learned the lesson? Will better prices only generate new production? In short, could this cycle, starting from so humble a base, be aborted?

One must fear that all of these things are possible. The best hope is that production costs go on rising, and that a weaker dollar will mean lower local currency earnings. After all, 8 cents is still very cheap - which itself is encouraging speculation by investors and commission houses - and real returns on capital employed in the industry are elusive in many parts of the world. If farmers do indeed manage to restrain themselves the light brew could come to an all-out boil.

By Michael Prest

Law Report March 25 1986

Bar fees case adjourned for timetable to be agreed

Regina v Lord Chancellor, Ex parte Alexander. Before Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Boreham and Mr Justice Taylor. [Proceedings March 24]

On the Lord Chancellor's application, the Queen's Bench Divisional Court granted an adjournment until Wednesday of the Bar's application (The Times March 21, 22) for a declaration that the Lord Chancellor's decision to increase by no more than 3 per cent fees payable to barristers for criminal legal aid was unlawful.

Mr Sydney Kentridge, QC, Mr Thomas Morison, QC, Mr Nicholas Underhill, and Mr George Leggett for Mr Robert Scott Alexander QC, Chairman of the Bar of England and Wales, and Mr Nicholas Phillips, QC and Mr John Laws for the Lord Chancellor.

Mr Phillips expressed the parties' gratitude to their Lordships for the opportunity for further consideration of the proceedings.

"In the light of your Lordships' comments on Friday, discussion has taken place between the parties with a view to agreeing a binding timetable for completing the remaining stages of the Bar's claim.

"The Lord Chancellor would like to agree to this but he needs first to consult with his colleagues because the timetable for his final decision will include a date which could have implications for public expenditure.

"We would respectfully invite your Lordships to grant a further adjournment until Wednesday morning. This will give time for the necessary consultations with the Lord Chancellor will commence immediately.

Mr Kentridge: "As the Lord Chancellor wants the adjournment for that purpose, we obviously can have no objection to it.

"We, that is, the Bar, have indeed proposed a fairly detailed timetable for negotiations. It would not be right for me at this stage to read it out and I do not propose to do so. But we had thought that, perhaps, it should be in your Lordships' hands so that by Wednesday morning your Lordships would be aware of what is in it.

The Lord Chief Justice: "I think we should prefer to know nothing about it for the time being."

Mr Kentridge: "As your Lordships please."

The Lord Chief Justice: "Some of us have commitments on Wednesday."

Their Lordships conferred. The Lord Chief Justice: "The commitments on Wednesday afternoon are the midday adjournment. Assuming that matters can be completed - if the negotiations break down - in the morning, well and good."

His Lordship asked whether it would be possible to have the adjournment until tomorrow. Mr Phillips: "My instructions are that that would create difficulties in relation to the consultations that need to take place."

The Lord Chief Justice: "Very well. On the assumption that matters, if they proceed, can be completed between 10 o'clock in the morning and 1 o'clock in the afternoon on Wednesday, we will grant that adjournment."

Mr Kentridge: "From our point of view, if the case should go to go on, we can assure your Lordships that the reply on this side will not be very long."

Mr Kentridge asked to mention a personal note that the case resumed he hoped that these last few days would forgive him if he was not able to be present.

The Lord Chief Justice, in granting the adjournment until Wednesday at 10 o'clock, wished the parties good luck in their negotiations.

Solicitors: Lawrence Graham; Treasury Solicitor.

Adjudicator erred in disposing of appeal without a hearing

Regina v Immigration Appeal Adjudicator, Ex parte Rahmani and Others. Before Lord Scarman, Lord Elwyn-Jones, Lord Roskill, Lord Templeman and Lord MacKay of Clashfern. [Speeches given March 20]

A letter from the United Kingdom Immigration Advisory Service stating that they had no further instructions from the respondents in appeals to the adjudicator. Notices of appeal had been given requesting an oral hearing of the appeals.

Some time afterwards, the respondents had moved, but although Mrs Rahmani had informed the service of her change of address, no note of it had been made in the people's file.

When the clerk to the adjudicator had given the service notice that the appeals would be heard on November 26, 1985, the service, unable to trace the respondents, had replied: "We have no further instructions from the respondents about their present whereabouts may I request the adjudicator to decide this case in such manner as he may deem it to be proper."

The adjudicator had decided to exercise the power in rule 12 to determine the appeals without a hearing and without dismissing them.

The respondents, on being subsequently notified of the decision, had sought judicial review of the adjudicator's decision.

The principle accepted by the judges and the Court of Appeal was, if good law, of very great importance: it was that a decision of a public authority which was within the power conferred by statute and had been reached without procedural impropriety or irregularity on its part, could not be quashed by the courts on grounds of public law.

LORD SCARMAN said that the respondents came from Iran. Their original leave to enter and stay had been extended to September 25, 1980, but the secretary of state had refused a further extension of leave.

His notice of refusal had informed the respondents that

they had a right of appeal to an adjudicator and that they might, if they wished, seek advice from the United Kingdom Immigration Advisory Service, a voluntary organization independent of the Government, but recognized by statute and funded from public resources.

Mrs Rahmani had sought advice from the service, instructing them to act for the respondents in appeals to the adjudicator. Notices of appeal had been given requesting an oral hearing of the appeals.

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conditions that rule 12 required to be met to enable an appellate authority to determine an appeal without a hearing had not been met.

The adjudicator had erred in his acting on the assumption that the rule applied. His decision to dismiss the appeals might, therefore, be quashed on that simple ground.

It was clear that Mrs Rahmani had never instructed her to act for the respondents in the conduct of their appeals. Nor had the service's letter of November 9, 1985, so stated.

Indeed, if the service had not sought to act for the respondents, it would have been asked to request the adjudicator to deal with the matter in such manner as he should deem proper.

The last instructions that the service had received from Mrs Rahmani were that there must be a hearing, that she would await news of its time and place and that she wished a barrister to represent her.

On the evidence, the adjudicator had had no reason to be satisfied that these were no person authorized to represent the respondents at a hearing of the appeals.

The letter of November 9, 1985, on which he must have acted had not justified him in assuming that the service was authorized to act for the respondents. He should have required an unambiguous declaration from the service either that their instructions had been withdrawn or that they had no instructions.

The letter contained no such declaration, and Mrs Rahmani had neither withdrawn her instructions nor left the service without instructions. A necessary condition, therefore, for the exercise by the adjudicator of his power to determine the appeals without a hearing had been lacking. He had erred in law in proceeding under rule 12.

LORD ELWYN-JONES, LORD ROSKILL, LORD TEMPLEMAN and LORD MACLAY agreed with Lord Scarman. Solicitors: Sandler, Sumner & Co.

No power to review judge's order

Regina v Central Criminal Court, Ex parte Raymond. Before Lord Justice Woolf and Mr Justice Goff. [Judgment given March 18]

Orders made by a crown court judge that an indictment should lie on the file not to be proceeded with without the leave of that court or the Court of Appeal, were orders affecting the conduct of the trial and accordingly the Queen's Bench Divisional Court had no jurisdiction to review the decision to make such an order under section 29(3) of the Supreme Court Act 1981.

The Divisional Court so held, refusing an application for judicial review in respect of an order made by a crown court judge that an indictment should lie on the file not to be proceeded with without the leave of that court or the Court of Appeal, were orders affecting the conduct of the trial and accordingly the Queen's Bench Divisional Court had no jurisdiction to review the decision to make such an order under section 29(3) of the Supreme Court Act 1981.

The defendant, Stephen Patrick Raymond, sought relief on the ground that the crown court judge had no jurisdiction to make such an order without the defendant's consent. After sentence he had been arraigned on the remaining counts on the indictment and pleaded not guilty to them.

Mr Michael West, QC, for the defendant; Mr John Laws for the prosecution.

LORD JUSTICE WOOLF said that the orders went beyond the ordinary order for an adjournment since they had the effect of postponing a trial but, in effect, ordering that there should be no trial.

None the less his Lordship concluded that they could not be distinguished from an order for an adjournment and as they also related to trial on indictment, he would regard them as "orders affecting the conduct of the trial".

They were orders that the trials should not be conducted without the court's leave and the application was made for an order for the exception to section 29(3) of the Supreme Court Act 1981.

Mr Justice Webster agreed. Solicitors: Ms Marie Sander; Director of Public Prosecutions.

Highway that is not a road is a 'road' within the statute

Regina v Secretary of State for Transport, Ex parte Greater London Council. [Judgment given March 18]

Section 29(3) of the Road Traffic Act 1972, a highway which was not a road within the meaning of the word "road" within the meaning of section 196(1) of the 1972 Act.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Croom-Johnson and Mr Justice McGowan) held on March 17 that a highway which was not a road within the meaning of section 196(1) of the 1972 Act should not be included in the definition in section 196(1) of the 1972 Act.

The suggestion in *Wilkinson's Road Traffic Offences* vol 1, 12th edition, at p41 that the definition in section 196(1) should not include footpaths and bridleways was not accepted. Providing a footpath or bridleway was a highway then they were unquestionably roads.

LORD JUSTICE CROOM-JOHNSON said that the defendant had conceded that the route he took was a highway.

The definition of "road" in section 196(1) was any highway and any other road to which the public had access. That did not mean that a highway also had to be a road within the ordinary meaning of the word.

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Profit after taxation	3,287	2,771
Interim dividend - Net amount per share	1.945p	1.768p
Earnings per share	9.5p	8.0p
Estimated Net Asset Value Per Share	235p	209p
Contracted Rent Roll	£7,980m	£6,297m

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COMPUTER HORIZONS/1

Success in Europe for Silicon Alley

By Richard Sarsen

Robb Wilmot's new chip-making company, ES2, European Silicon Structures, was looking for a work station of the right power to run its silicon design software at the least cost.

It has found one in London's East End, Silicon Alley, at a company called Whitechapel Computer Works.

The software will also be British written by Edinburgh-based Lattice Logic. But perhaps most important the ES2 connection will launch Whitechapel into Europe. Only a three-year-old company, it is only just dipping its toe into foreign markets and this collaborative deal could make Whitechapel the European leader for chip design work stations. It could do the same for Lattice Logic.

This catalytic effect on young companies was always one of the side effects Robb Wilmot hoped for in setting up ES2. Its corporate investors are Olivetti from Italy, Philips from Holland, Bull from France, Saab-Scania from Sweden, Brown Boveri from Switzerland, Telefonica from Spain and British Aerospace.

As well as money, these companies will provide ES2 with technical help and they are also likely to be Wilmot's first customers. So it is difficult to see how he can lose. They, too, are likely to gain technically and financially from the ES2 connection.

A notable absentee from the corporate backers is ICL, Wilmot's old company. This was partly because STC, ICL's parent, is in the custom chip business itself. And, in its present financial state, STC does not have much spare cash to invest. It will miss the catalytic effects.

Mr Wilmot has tried to give his company a European, rather than a national legal identity, but found that, despite 30 years of trying, the EEC has not succeeded in creating a legal framework for a European company. So he did the next best thing, to incorporate the holding company in the smallest EEC country, Luxembourg, the seat of the European Court of Justice.

Good news for printer in software bridges

By Mike Gerrard

The good news for publishers and printers when writers started using word-processors was that bulky, untidy manuscripts could be done away with and it became possible to edit and typeset direct from disks.

The bad news, as it usually is when you start dealing with computers, was incompatibility. Fine if printer, publisher, and author all have, say, an IBM-compatible personal computer and a copy of Wordstar, but if the author has used a different piece of word-processing software, then it is no good printer or publisher trying to load it into their own machine using Wordstar, as the software will not recognise it.

You could go out and buy the same piece of software, but with a few hundred word-processing programs for PC machines alone, this could prove a pretty costly and complicated solution in the long run. And what do you do if your writer does not have a PC machine, but perhaps uses a BBC, an Apricot, or the Amstrad PCW? Do you try to cope equally well with 5¼-inch disks, 3½-inch disks, and 3-inch disks?

Wherever there is an incompatibility problem, however, be it marriages of micros, there is usually money to be made by anyone prepared to take the trouble to solve it, and in this case it is a company called InterMedia from Lewes in East Sussex, whose Multi Media Converter is now turning over more than £1 million a year for them, not just from publishers and printers, but from banks, government departments, software houses and other organisations, both here and abroad.

The heart of the system is a Zenith 2-100 which in addition to 3½-inch disks can be adapted to take 3½-inch, 3-inch and 8-inch disks, as well



Robb Wilmot: Prospects in London's East End

He has spread the company's resources evenly-handedly around Europe. The head office is in Munich, presided over by a Frenchman, the managing director, Jean Luc Grand-Clement. Production of the chips will be at a silicon foundry in Aix-en-Provence — a prudent move, as French governments tend to demand production facilities in France, before they open up their public sector markets. The design department will be at Bracknell, reflecting Britain's pre-eminence in European software.

As well as designing and making customised chips, ES2 will franchise other silicon foundries around Europe, and will supply the hardware and software tools to small and medium companies so that they can set up their own design departments. The whole purpose of ES2 is to give Europe the tools to cut down the time to design and make small batches of chips from 16 weeks to two to four weeks. It will not just be ES2 who will learn these new techniques. They will teach the whole electronics industry across Europe.

They have already won two customers in Belgium. All this has been achieved since last September, outpacing the politicians and Eurocrats, who have spent the winter agonising endlessly and fruitlessly about the structure and funding of Eureka. Mr Wilmot is showing that Europe is to be built by businessmen, not ideologists.

New dangers in US pact

The computer industry is preparing itself to shoulder much of the costs which are expected to accrue from the worldwide rise in the price of microchips. The anticipated escalation in price will result from an agreement which last week was in the final stages of being struck between the American suppliers of semiconductors and their Japanese equivalents.

That agreement stems from the Americans' obsession with cheap Japanese imports and the Japanese attempt to cater to the US paranoia in the event that the alternative would be protectionism.

The irony is that the effects of this, the "semiconductor accord" will be felt as much by the US computer and electronics industries as by the Japanese.

The war between the US and Japan over semiconductors is almost 10 years old and the US chip makers have lobbied hard in the last year to ensure government support in their attempt to exert pressure on the Japanese. Japan, the manufacturers claim, have been dumping microchips on the US market by selling them at less than cost. Two weeks ago the US companies had their first significant victory with the Commerce Department imposing a duty on memory microchips imported from Japan. That duty ranged from 20 to 300 per cent.

The manufacturers have been seeking a better long-term solution than the imposition of duties, particularly one which will give the industry more stability. The fierce price war in microchips during the last two years, precipitated by overproduction of components because anticipated growth in the computer market was never realised, scared the semiconductor makers.

Many of the principal suppliers

suffered a substantial drop in sales, had to cut their production, lay off workers and close factories. Such unpleasantness have made the semiconductor manufacturers very nervous.

The spiral continued with the computer suppliers savagely cutting prices both in Europe and the US in an attempt to keep market share. Consequently the component suppliers were under more pressure to cut prices.

The stakes are high. Between them the US and Japanese manufacturers supply more than 90 per cent of the world microchips. Texas Instruments, Motorola, National Semiconductor and Intel are in the top 10 and do battle with

will have on the economy may not be the one they seek. The agreement would undoubtedly seek to try and provide a method by which US microchips can penetrate the closed Japanese market. The Americans would seek to benefit through such an agreement by having their components in the many Japanese products invading the US and European markets.

The reality is likely to be quite different. A similar deal was struck about three to four years ago between the Japanese and the Americans on telecommunications equipment supply. That deal, applauded by many on both sides of the Pacific as revolutionary, was not worth the paper on which it was written.

The Americans also have to attract Japanese companies to trade. The Japanese very rarely buy non-Japanese products and invariably only do when there is no Japanese equivalent. Sadly the only way for the Americans or any other nation to fight such attitudes effectively is to convince their home markets to behave similarly.

But the biggest danger to the American economy may be posed not by the supposed Japanese dumping but through the pact formed with the Japanese. The Americans have long prided themselves on a free market economy. The US-Japan agreement could stifle such new businesses by ensuring that only the big boys who are members of the club and can play the microchip manufacturing game.

With little difficulty one might describe such an agreement as the foundations of a cartel. No doubt there'll be someone from the computer world who might see it that way and uphold another American tradition — test it in court. Beware microchip suppliers, the new dangers may be worse than the old.

THE WEEK

By Bill Johnstone
Technology Correspondent

NEC, Hitachi, Toshiba and Fujitsu. The only European in the same class is Philips.

Dr Robert Noyce, the pioneer of microchip design and vice-chairman/co-founder of Intel, has been fighting for a decade allegedly unfair Japanese practices in the US and his views epitomise the fears of the US microchip industry. In a recent published interview he said: "We've been working on this problem since 1977. We have spent a disproportionate amount of time and treasure trying to figure out how to ward off a trade war with Japan while preserving our viability."

Dr Noyce and many other industrialists consider the protection of the home semiconductor market as vital to the US economy.

But the effect that such an agreement

Softclone keeps individual touch

British micro makers, while increasingly bowing to the IBM PC's standard, are using a novel technique that removes the need for the slavish imitation this normally entails, writes David Guest.

The method that they hope will allow them to preserve their individuality is called Softclone. It made its first appearance when Apricot launched the Xen microcomputer in the US last November.

In operation Softclone is like an adaptor that you fit between the plug and the socket to make an electrical appliance work in a foreign country.

Programs written for the PC can be "softcloned" to run on other systems, but any features that make the host computer superior to an IBM PC are not compromised in the process.

It works by building up a map of the points at which a program interacts with a PC — where it accepts data from the keyboard, where it puts characters out to the screen, or accesses a disk.

For a company that wants to make the most popular programs available for its machine, it is a relatively cheap and quick alternative to asking software firms such as Lotus, Ashton-Tate or others

for a customised version of their software.

Softclone was devised by a US company, Control C Software, but in a sense it's a product of the brain drain. The founder of Control C, Andy Johnson-Laird, is a Briton who was once turned down for a job by ICL. Control C now assists ICL in implementing its microcomputer operating systems.

Digital Research is examining the possibility of applying the technique to an operating system not at present suitable for PC programs.

Softclone does not alter the program it is operating on nor does it involve any illegal copying. Under ideal circumstances it can actually enhance a program, according to Mr Johnson-Laird. He cited the case of the popular word processor, WordStar, where softcloning could prevent WordStar hogging the printer — a desirable result especially on a multi-user system.

The technique requires very little memory. It demands a machine with a processor of the type in the IBM PC family, a suitable operating system, and the ability to read IBM-format disks.

Digital Research is not working to a timetable, but ultimately its involvement could have the most far-reaching effects.

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COMPUTER HORIZONS/3

A quicker way to digital notes

By Nick Hampshire

Typing in program listings for home computers from books and magazines is so time-consuming and error-prone that none but the most enthusiastic will normally attempt such an exercise.

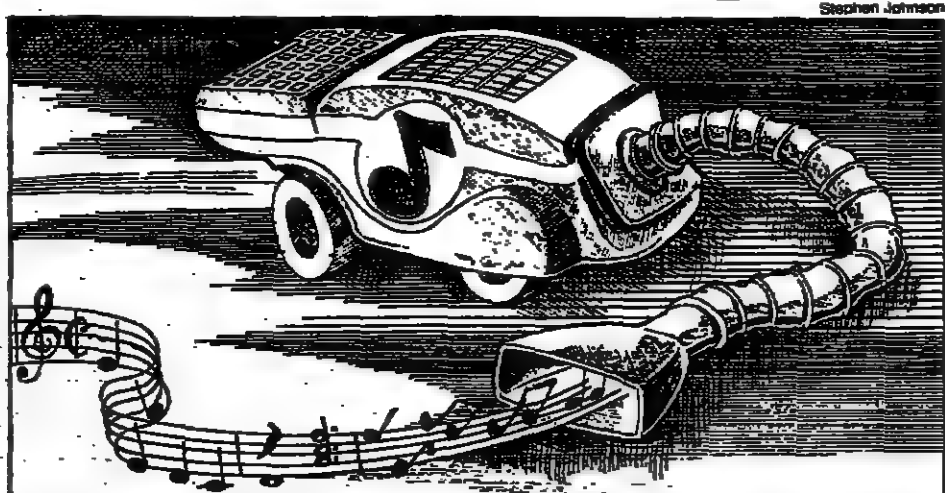
The problem of how to publish computer software, and data, in a low-cost printed form has long exercised the minds of both publishers and authors. The solution may now be at hand: machine-readable printed software.

Special patterned strips composed of many small dots are printed on to a page in a paper, magazine or book. By running a small hand-held device down the strip, a program or data is loaded into the attached computer.

The data could be text, graphics, even digitised music. Because the data is printed it provides a cheap alternative to magnetic media or telecommunications for the recording, distribution and retrieval of information.

The concept of being able to print machine-readable software or data on a sheet of paper is not new. Many methods have been tried over the years to produce a cheap means of disseminating computer programs or data.

The most successful has been bar codes of the type now seen on many grocery items.



But the limitation of bar codes is the small amount of data which can be carried on a single page, usually less than 1,000 characters.

This limitation has been overcome by an American firm, Causin Systems, which has developed an entirely new approach to the problem. The solution is capable of storing up to 50,000 characters on a single sheet of A4 paper, and could generate a substantial new market for low-cost machine-readable data.

Normal printing methods can be used to reproduce the data, which is then input into the computer using a hand-

held scanner. The scanner is moved by hand across a page which can be loaded in just over a minute.

The most expensive item in the system is the scanner, which if this form of data dissemination becomes widespread will prove a good investment at £140.

One interesting feature of the technology developed by Causin for the scanner is its ability to read the data from the page even if the printed strip has been written upon, scratched, wrinkled, or covered in coffee stains.

It does this by emitting infra-red light which is ab-

sorbed by the ordinary printing ink used to print the data strip. This causes the carbon in the black ink to heat up, a detector measures the heat output from the black areas and uses this information to input the data.

The use of infra-red detection gives the Causin reader some interesting abilities. Coffee stains and ink from felt pens will not heat up and are therefore ignored by the reader.

Also, by printing on coloured paper the data can be made proof against photocopying, since the extra toner resulting from the coloured

paper will render the strip unreadable.

The developers claim that there is only a chance of one in 10 billion of an undetected data error and that the error correction techniques used mean that data can be successfully read.

The printed strips can be fairly easily generated by a dot matrix printer using software already available from Causin for most personal computers. In this manner masters can easily be made for printing or for the transmission of data by letter without further reproduction.

Using this system to put data or programs on to paper offers the user some interesting possibilities. It could be used for secure hard copy storage of archival data. Data and programs could quickly, easily and securely be sent by post.

The Causin reader is just coming on the market in the US; the UK is expected to follow within six months, with versions for the IBM PC, Apple II and Macintosh and other machines to follow.

A number of publishers are committed to printing material in the future and if this device lives up to its promise it could have a significant effect on the way computer data or programs are distributed and sold.

Cheap machines worry dealers

By Geoff Wheelwright

The advent of the cheap business computer may be good news for consumers, but it is giving computer dealers a hard time.

Machines compatible with IBM's personal computer and software have tumbled onto the market — making a big splash in the computer media and putting pressure on dealers to drop prices. Dealers say that they don't see much consumer reaction to the flood of inexpensive IBM PC clones from Taiwan.

They also point out that dealers selling machines for £1,000 or less, cannot be expected to give much after-sales service. Yet the price squeeze on main stream dealers could soon see them putting a price on that training and support in order to compete with the cut price importers.

Major companies such as Compaq and Olivetti claim they don't fear competition from Far Eastern imports. But the success of companies such as Amstrad — which has had unprecedented sales in the small business sector with its PCW8256 word processor computer — has shown there is a big market for the right kind of low cost computers.

The company is expected to announce a £1,000 IBM style machine later this year. This could put the frighteners on some of the market leaders which have thus far maintained a fair degree of market share without price cutting. The position for dealers could be even worse — as companies selling the cheap IBM clone create an expectation in the public mind that the price of such machines should be less than £1,000.

The dealers are also having increasing trouble making money on software. The success of companies such as Adam Osborne Paperbacks which sells applications for less than £100 and Borland Software, which has had great success with its low cost Sidekick have meant that dealers tend to make less money on software as well.

Some industry observers suggest that dealers will now turn to training and support.

Whatever happens, dealers may have to look at increasingly specialist markets to survive the onslaught of cheap machines, the entry of office equipment companies and High Street retailers (which has been the backbone of the Amstrad machines success) in this highly competitive field.

Heinz Nixdorf

Heinz Nixdorf, the founder of West Germany's biggest computer manufacturer, died on March 17 of a heart attack at the age of 60.

He collapsed at a reception at the Hannover Information and Technology Fair and died in hospital.

Mr. Nixdorf, who was managing board chairman of Nixdorf AG, came to represent the post-war German image of the self-made man and transformed his passion for electronics into a worldwide concern.

He set up his first workshop in a cellar as a struggling 27-year-old student in 1952 with DM30,000 (about £8,800) of government aid and one assistant.

Today Nixdorf AG employs more than 23,000 people and had a revenue last year of DM4 billion.

The leading West German business magazine *Wirtschaftswoche* described him last year as "Germany's most successful post-war entrepreneur".

The big boom in corporate micros

Nearly 100,000 micros were sold to large organisations last year which is more than all previous years combined, according to a survey by the Rometec consultancy. More than half were made by IBM and in the private sector IBM's share rose to over three quarters.

By 1988, the 200-page report predicts, there will be 700,000 micros installed compared to 190,000 today, while the number of software packages will grow from 380,000 to 1.7 million over the same period.

Terminal warning

The TUC has published a series of guidelines on the introduction and use of computer terminals, including the advice that intensive work with them should not occupy more than 50 per cent of each day. It also points out that though reports on the health risks of pregnant women using computer screens are so far inconclusive, the pregnant and those planning to become so should be given the option of working away from them. By 1990, the TUC predicts, more than half the British workforce will regularly use computer screens.

Screen magazine

The Times Network Systems is to provide an electronic database of the monthly magazine *Personal Computer World*. Subscribers will be able to call up past and present news, reviews and features from the magazine for a cost of £4 a month plus connection charges and will be able to communicate with each other over the national network. *Personal Computer World* was voted journal of the year in the UK Computer Press Awards sponsored by

COMPUTER BRIEFING

The Times and Hewlett-Packard. Further information from 01-439 4242.

Amstrad launch

Having launched a larger 2574 version of its highly successful word processor, Amstrad is now turning its attention to an IBM-compatible personal computer to be aimed directly at the business market. Amstrad will not confirm any details but *Popular Computing Weekly* magazine predicts that Amstrad will launch two versions of the computer, one with a hard disc drive included and with prices of £700 and £900. Both are said to include a colour monitor, may have better graphics than IBM's own PC and will be announced in the autumn.



'Don't worry. It's not really as hectic as that working here. He's just a poser.'

BT in Japan

British Telecom plans to file an application with the Japanese finance ministry this month to list its stocks on the Tokyo Stock Exchange, the chairman Sir George Jefferson said in Tokyo last week. Mr. Jefferson told reporters that British Telecom may be able to list its stocks in Tokyo by June. Now, stocks of 21 foreign firms are listed on the Tokyo stock market.

Microsoft float

The reigning king of the computer operating systems business, Microsoft, was publicly floated on the US market last week to an enthusiastic response by US

investors. The company sold all of the 2.5 million shares it offered at \$21 each — and issued a subsequent 295,000 shares at that price. By the Friday after the issue, that price had risen to \$29, yielding a final value for the company of more than \$700 million.

The Microsoft flotation is one of the most successful share offerings of a software company.

Jobs on Prestel

For those who want to switch jobs in the computer industry British Telecom's viewdata service, Prestel, has started a computer appointments section on page 550. Job seekers can search the database for vacancies by either job description or salary level and fill in an application form on screen. BT estimates that at current rates there will be 70,000 terminals linked to Prestel by the end of 1986 though the many of the sets are used only to access special trade areas of the system.

China show

Displays at China's first major export fair of its top technology to be held next month in Shenzhen will range from sophisticated satellite-launching rockets to microwave wine-aging equipment. Jin Zhude, director of the Commission of Science, Technology and Industry for National Defence, said that 1,200 products would be displayed for potential buyers at the fair to be held in the Shenzhen Special Economic Zone bordering Hong Kong from April 10-20.

The official said that 500 companies from 14 countries have already indicated they plan to attend the fair, aimed at boosting this embryonic sector of the national economy. Most of the displays will be products of national defence industries, particularly those under the ministries of nuclear energy, aviation, ordnance and astronautics, and would be competitive on the international market, Mr. Jin said.

Oxtech finally comes of age

By Peter Levi

There are now 186 Oxfordshire hi-tech companies with 36 companies involved in computers. This is revealed in a research paper by Helen Lawton-Smith, sponsored by the Oxford Trust, which intends to relate local research and development activities to relevant businesses.

Oxfordshire's major research institutions employ 10,000 people and include Harwell, Culham and Rutherford. The trust has given an added fillip to changing academic attitudes — it is now acceptable and even laudable for scientists and academics to apply their research in industry and commerce.

One typical example of a company start-up is Oxitech, set up in 1984 by laser experts Malcolm Gower and Phil Rumsey, who are two of 500 scientists working at the Rutherford Laboratory. Working evenings and weekends, they provide research on chemical bonds, but without a laser's usual burning effect. The lasers have applications in both plastics and biological tissue, producing clean precise cuts, down to the size of a micron, without damaging the surrounding plastic or tissue.

Oxitech is working with two hospitals to find a method of unblocking arteries by sending laser beams through a fibre. Another company, Oxford Laser, is a prime example of successful technology transfer working on metal vapour systems in UK hospitals, so that photo-dynamic radiation therapy for treating cancer cells can be further assessed and improved.

But the company to whose achievement many new companies aspire is Oxford Instru-



Sweet wrapping: A robot with vision

ments, started in 1959 by Martin Wood. It was one of the first hi-tech companies in Oxfordshire.

Today it employs 900 people in the UK, has a £60 million turnover and in 1986 will open its fifth local factory. Its philosophy is that when one company in the group gets to a certain size, part is hired off, as well as being a breeding ground for new management.

It is not often that an academic has the courage to make a total break with the university when getting up in business, but this is what Peter Davey, CBE, did at the age of 47. In 1984 he set up Meta

Younger academics set a new trend

Machines, Britain's first company to develop sensor-guided robotic systems, in conjunction with Ed Hudson, previously a senior manager at Unimation. This meant giving up both his research and the job to which he had been seconded running the SERC's robotics research programme.

There is a trend for younger academics to market their own ideas. In 1981, after physics graduates Henry Hyde-Thomson and Ernst Von Weyhausen won an entrepreneurial competition, they set up Grafox. The result is Logistix, a spread-sheet program with time management which cost £395 and has sold 2,500 copies since last September. Having set up an associate company in Madrid, Grafox plans to distribute in

PCs move into the fast lane

By David Guest

A kind of motorway madness has overtaken users of IBM personal computers.

Various means of souping up the system in the PC range have come into vogue and there is no sign that it is a passing fad.

By comparison with earlier small computers, and with terminals on larger systems, PCs are fast. Not fast enough, however, to discourage ingenious electronic firms nor apparently to satisfy users.

It started early in the personal computer's life when accelerator boards appeared. These could be slotted into a computer's innards like an extra cylinder in a car engine.

More recently, NEC have devised a processing unit equivalent to that of the PC, but faster — one user reports a 10 per cent improvement for the outlay of £11. This processor switch is akin to cleaning the points, replacing the plugs, and giving the engine a tune-up.

In the last month a neatly packaged go-faster device for users of the PC AT has been introduced in the UK. For about £30, it could improve the speed by around 30 per cent. It consists of a replacement crystal, 16 MHz for the AT's 12, the crystal's rate of oscillation determining the maximum revs of the AT's motor.

Warning noises about new parts

None of these tweaks and tune-ups originate with IBM, the manufacturer of the vehicle. It turned a blind eye to accelerator boards but has made warning noises about the effect of replacement parts on the owner's warranty. Intel, maker of the PC's processor is thought to be taking legal advice about copyright. But

users want speed, and the industry will give it to them.

NEC already plans to compete with forthcoming Intel processors doing the same jobs but with 10 to 25 per cent more expedition. The crystal makers in the US are pushing on from the present gains to even higher speeds. A means has already been found of countering IBM's defensive measure on a recent AT

A disc connection has been shelved

model, where the crystal rate was automatically checked when the system was switched on.

These things occasionally get out of step. A UK storage specialist, the Micro Technology Group, has shelved one particular disc connection device because it delivers data from the disc faster than the PC can handle it. This device's day will surely come.

There are, however, several unknowns in the equations. Will the remaining IBM components in a PC be able to survive life in the fast lane? Will programs be affected? Will a speeded up PC user be able to get a system repaired if the need arises?

Users seem willing to accept these risks. In the first place, the processors and crystals are simple plug-in devices. In the second, they cost so little that the benefits they offer seem disproportionately great.

There is also the possibility, according to one UK supplier, that users are simply impatient. The greatest factor yet to be determined concerns a user's perception of time. PCs are generally fast. A 10 per cent improvement on what appears to be instantaneous response may be difficult to detect in normal circumstances.

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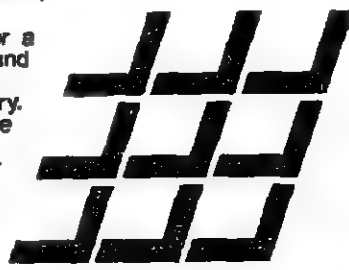
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Odom, 155, 157, 159, 161, 163, 165, 167, 169, 171, 173, 175, 177, 179, 181, 183, 185, 187, 189, 191, 193, 195, 197, 199, 201, 203, 205, 207, 209, 211, 213, 215, 217, 219, 221, 223, 225, 227, 229, 231, 233, 235, 237, 239, 241, 243, 245, 247, 249, 251, 253, 255, 257, 259, 261, 263, 265, 267, 269, 271, 273, 275, 277, 279, 281, 283, 285, 287, 289, 291, 293, 295, 297, 299, 301, 303, 305, 307, 309, 311, 313, 315, 317, 319, 321, 323, 325, 327, 329, 331, 333, 335, 337, 339, 341, 343, 345, 347, 349, 351, 353, 355, 357, 359, 361, 363, 365, 367, 369, 371, 373, 375, 377, 379, 381, 383, 385, 387, 389, 391, 393, 395, 397, 399, 401, 403, 405, 407, 409, 411, 413, 415, 417, 419, 421, 423, 425, 427, 429, 431, 433, 435, 437, 439, 441, 443, 445, 447, 449, 451, 453, 455, 457, 459, 461, 463, 465, 467, 469, 471, 473, 475, 477, 479, 481, 483, 485, 487, 489, 491, 493, 495, 497, 499, 501, 503, 505, 507, 509, 511, 513, 515, 517, 519, 521, 523, 525, 527, 529, 531, 533, 535, 537, 539, 541, 543, 545, 547, 549, 551, 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Lower to ride high on Silver Ace

Amber Clown, runner up to Rove in the Barthyany Stakes, on the same afternoon, can cash in on his fitness and go one better in the Butler Handicap Stakes.

Two other injuries were sustained over the weekend by players due to take part in the International Board's Centenary matches at Cardiff and Twickenham next month. Wayne Smith, the New Zealand sevens captain who has intimated that this will be his last season, has back trouble, and Andrew Slack,

ROWING High wind

Buckland and K S Hashali 15-7, 15-3, 15-11, 15-9; Radley JA J Harnesontp and M P Stuart-Clark) dt Harrow (AJ M Hamilton and S A Ross) 15-18,15-7, 5-15, 15-10, 4-15, 15-6, 15-8.

W.C. HARRIS, JR. of THE
Globe, Winds 106. Sun. 230.
6. ADM

SPORT

England out of luck and out of touch

From John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Barbados

Before the present Test series started Vivian Richards, the West Indian captain, let it be known how thankful he was that he would not himself be spending the next two months facing the West Indian fast bowlers.

He said so not as propaganda, but out of a genuine understanding of what lay ahead of England's batsmen and the likely effect it would have on them, as it probably would on him. Sunday's play here in the third Test provided a prime example of what he meant.

When it ended, thousands of England's supporters, some of whom had been saving up for years to come to Barbados for the match, were shocked by what they had seen. To many of them, the technical and psychological problems of playing Garner, Marshall, Holding and Patterson for hours on end are a closed book.

But what in fact they had witnessed was a morning's bowling which no batsman that I know would have wanted to back himself to survive, and an evening when the demoralizing effect of facing non-stop high-class fast bowling was grimly apparent.

As England showed against Australia last summer, they can be a very good batting side. As such, they should obviously have been capable of scoring the 119 runs they needed now, with nine wickets in hand, to save the follow-on and so extend the match.

Instead, shaken by their previous failures, disconcerted by finding conditions so much in favour of the bowlers and badly out of form, they failed by 30 runs. Against their own bowling, or Australia's, it would have been a different matter, a different game.

Sad as it undoubtedly was,

there was also a technical explanation for England's first innings collapse. One local pundit, a West Indian Test cricketer, said he reckoned that perhaps only once a year would he see the ball move about as it did on Sunday morning.

An uneven bounce only added to the difficulties of batting. England's second failure of the day, after tea, was due much more to a lack of spirit, and it was because of

Scoreboard

WEST INDIES: First innings 418 (R B Richards 160, D L Haynes 84, V A Richards 51, J G Thomas 4-70, N A Foster 3-75)	
ENGLAND: First innings 189 (G A Gough 53, D I Gower 56, M D Marshall 4-43, R P Patterson 3-45)	
Second innings	
G A Gough & Patterson	11
D I Gower & Patterson	43
D I Gower & Marshall	23
P Patterson & Gough	17
A J Lamb & Gough	9
P H Edwards not out	2
I T Boulton & Gough	1
I T Boulton not out	1
Total (8 wickets)	123
1st Test, Barbados, 23-27 March. FALL OF WICKETS: 1-48, 2-71, 3-84, 4-108, 5-108, 6-122.	
BOWLING: Marshall 5-0-27-4, Garner 5-2-34-3, Patterson 7-2-18-2, Holding 6-0-46-1, Richards 4-1-7-0.	
Umpires: D M Archer and L Barker.	

this that it was so hard to bear. I have seen exactly the same thing happen to an Australian side in South Africa (1969-70), an England side in Australia (1974-75) and a West Indian side in Australia (1975-76), always because one side has been strong in fast bowling and the other not. It is horrible when it occurs, not least because the symptoms are so lowering.

In the last hour on Sunday England played as though they had lost heart. Batting was still far from straightforward. But England were in desperate straits, and this was a Test

match and Test cricket is, as it should be, a hard game.

Yet Gower still got out to one of his off-side swishes and Botham played an innings which was nothing short of a travesty. Botham is a special case at the moment. I suppose, in a sense, he always has been. He is under the fiercest pressure, much of which, it is true, he has brought upon himself. He has been vilified beyond all acceptable limits in the press; he is to be investigated by the police for possible drug offences on his great walk from John O'Groats to Land's End; his cricket has gone to pieces and there is no-one here to give him the leadership and encouragement he desperately needs.

On Sunday evening, when Botham went in at 108 for four with 20 minutes left, Gower said nothing to him. But why not? "Now come on, Ian, you've got to be there at the close. We've a test day tomorrow and if we're still only four wickets down tonight you can go and get us a great hundred on Tuesday."

There was nothing like that - and Botham just went in and slugged. Cheered most of the way to the wicket by the English contingent, he came off in silence when, in the last over, he was caught at the wicket.

It is hard enough at the best of times playing the West Indian fast bowlers. To try and do so with so much on his mind as Botham has, and with no-one to help him sort it out, is, as we saw, the recipe for a brainstorm. It was like some Greek drama, as melancholy in its way as anything I have ever seen on a cricket field. The best place for him at the moment might be at home, just trying to sort things out.

In Australia later this year it will all be much easier. I

expect. Tours to the West Indies have become unlike any others. But that is no reason, pompous though it may sound, for overlooking the need for the qualities that make an officer, and for others that make a company sergeant major and others a good coach.

David Gower spoke quietly and thoughtfully yesterday of the problems and the

disappointments. On reflection he says he would have liked to have batted first. He asked the head groundsman before the match, as I did, what he thought of the pitch and got the same answer: "It will be no place for batting on the first morning."

So he did as most others would have done, armed with such advice, and felled. It gave England their best chance

of taking the initiative, but in the event they bowled poorly. "We have to make such decisions on the first morning of the match, not the morning of the rest day," he said. "My style of captaincy has not changed since last summer and it was good enough then. I shall be having a word with the team to say that pride matters and we've still got a tour to finish."

"They can sink to whatever low depths they like and we won't help them. It's not a question of packing up and going through the motions. There's no future in throwing in even a hand towel. If we were to do that the last three or four weeks would seem like three or four years."

I have a nasty feeling they may do nasty.

A word in Botham's ear, but Gower has failed to talk the all-rounder out of his disappointing spell

Test for Robson's forward planning

From Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent, Thess, Soviet Union

If Don Howe's own future is shrouded in dark confusion, there are three black clouds on the horizon for the England team that he coaches. The manager, Bobby Robson, admitted yesterday that there were potential weaknesses in each area of the side that would play against the Soviet Union here tomorrow.

Robson said he would be looking for "the pace that is so essential to us in defence". That statement suggests that Martin, whose lack of speed was exposed early on in Israel last month, is to be left out in favour of Wright, even though his other vulnerabilities have been painfully clear in the past.

"Our defensive record matches any in the world," Robson claimed. "Since I took over four years ago we have not been done by more than two goals." Yet although Shilton has been beaten only twice in the five internationals so far this season, the opposition has been relatively average and Robson conceded that "we must defend better".

He is also looking for "someone to play when Bryan Robson is not there". The captain confirmed his value in Tel Aviv by scoring both goals but he remains frighteningly prone to injury. He will be replaced in midfield by Bracewell, Cowan or, more probably, Hodge.

The unique player

"We won't find another player like Robson," the manager said. "He is unique. Even Platini doesn't go around winning the ball. France give him a free role and allow him to play in the last 40 yards. But with Williams and Hoddle as suppliers, we need someone there to kick the odd goal for us."

The other position that troubles Robson is the most controversial. He is yet again to question his attack with a winger. In the absence of Barnes, it is certain to be Waddle. "I want to find out if the system which I have tried for some time can work at the highest level," Robson said.

"If we can solve those problems, we have a chance anywhere. Although there is little opportunity to see the Soviets in action, I have a vivid memory of their performance at Wembley two years ago when they were finer, stronger, quicker and brighter than us."

The formation will be led by Hatcher, who stayed with Williams and Cowan in Moscow last night after the inordinately lengthy journey from Italy, and Linaker, Woodcock, Hipping on a swollen foot, may not be fit enough to join the substitutes, but he is the only doubt in the squad.

Howe, though, is suffering from wounded pride. He confirmed that he had not resigned as Arsenal's manager on Saturday, but merely asked to be released from his contract which is to end in May. If his request is refused, he will stay on "because I am a professional and it is a matter of self-respect".

Secretive approaches

He felt, understandably, that Arsenal had let him down by making secretive approaches to Terry Venables. "For all they knew, I might have been looking around myself and talking to other clubs during the last 12 months. It is the way the whole business has been conducted that hurts and it has hurt me very deeply," he said.

Howe was also upset that Arsenal's chairman, Peter Hill-Wood, had tossed a coin for the choice of venue halfway through extra time in their FA Cup fifth round replay against Luton Town without consulting him. The move did not allow Howe, who might not have been willing to take the risk of another game on the artificial surface at Kenilworth Road, to change tactics in the closing stages of the tie.

He is not deterred by the almost inevitable prospect of joining a smaller club. His passion for the game remains as fiery as ever, but he is now more wary, less trusting. "I wouldn't mind going down a division or two," he said, "but the people I would be working for would have to be right."

Robson was surprised by Howe's decision, but understands his motives. They know each other well. Their friendship started 30 years ago when they played together for West Bromwich Albion. Now they are combining again in the Soviet Union and Howe, in particular, is grateful for that. The forthcoming fixture will keep his troubled mind occupied.

More football, page 30

OLYMPIC BOOST FOR CITY

Birmingham selected for new indoor arena

Birmingham's ambition to stage the 1992 Olympic Games was given a boost yesterday when the city was chosen for the site of Britain's first national indoor sports arena.

The Sports Council chose Birmingham in preference to Manchester, Milton Keynes and two sites in London. The decision means that if the details for the Birmingham scheme are agreed, the project will get a grant of £3 million towards the £18 million cost. The arena, which would

hold 8,000 spectators, is planned for the city centre and would be linked to a conference centre. Work could start next year and although Sports Council officials insisted that Birmingham had not been picked because of the possibility of the Olympic Games being held in the city, the arena should be finished before 1992.

The Sports Council are also prepared to give financial help to the London Dome - a sports arena planned for London's dockland

BADMINTON

Downey to remain in charge

Jake Downey, who has been under fire from his top players in recent weeks, is to carry on as the England manager.

Nine leading players had petitioned for Downey's removal from the post; but yesterday the Badminton Association of England's executive committee announced a unanimous vote of confidence in the manager - who will lead the team to both the European and world team championships.

Significant changes have been made, however, among them the inclusion of a supporting managerial team made up of a selector and a coach for both events. Invitations have also been extended to Nora Perry and Martin Dew, who were originally excluded by Downey because they refused to travel with the squad to the world team championships in Indonesia. The selectors also arranged, against Downey's wishes, for the team to travel to Jakarta three days later than originally planned. Sadly the compromise may not work. Mrs Perry, England's best known and most successful player in recent years, is still sticking by her statement that she will not play for England while Downey is in charge. Dew, meanwhile, says he will travel five days later, not three.

Despite the problems, the manager is delighted with the vote of confidence. "Perhaps we can now get on with the business of winning," he said. There may, however, still be a twist or two to the tale. Some of the players are surprised that he has survived when they believed they had won the support of the selectors. Several expressed their disappointment at the outcome.

Once again the two leading singles players, Steve Baddeley and Helen Troke, were outspoken. "We had hoped for more than this," Baddeley said, while Miss Troke, the European champion, described it as "a negative response".

Two more controversial issues may present themselves. Firstly, if Mrs Perry sticks to her current stand then it is doubtful whether she will be able to play for England in the Commonwealth Games. Secondly, the EBA has reiterated its belief that the manager's job be separated into two roles as soon as money is available. If that happens, then the players' wishes will have been answered.

CROSS-COUNTRY

Budd on way to greatness

From Pat Butcher, Athletics Correspondent, Neuchâtel

Zola Budd is on her way to becoming the greatest woman athlete in the history of cross-country running if she can survive the censure attached to her links with South Africa.

Miss Budd's second runaway victory in the world championships here came against less than top opposition. But there is more than a suspicion that runners such as Grete Waitz and Ingrid Kristiansen, training for marathons, and Maricica Peica, simply decided not to compete, thus avoiding a crushing defeat by the youngster.

Mrs Waitz is one of two women who have won this championship on five occasions, the other being Doris Brown, of the United States, who competed before the race became an official world championship and when there were only half a dozen countries participating. In the women's race on Sunday 28 countries took part.

Miss Budd has won twice in succession and is likely to continue until a similarly talented runner emerges, because Mary Stacey, the only woman athlete capable of beating Miss Budd in this sort of race, will never risk her

delicate legs in cross-country competition. Miss Budd will receive two athletics awards from Prince Philip at Buckingham Palace tomorrow and then will run in the Five Miles cross-country race near Milan next Saturday before returning to South Africa for another lengthy period.

The ties with her native land contributed to two official rebuffs for Miss Budd in the last week. Her South African coach, Peter Labuschagne, and his wife, Karen, were refused permission to accompany her to the Palace, and, perhaps more pointedly for her athletics career, Lamine Diack, president of the African Amateur Athletic Confederation, refused to award Miss Budd's gold medal on Sunday, saying, "as far as I am concerned, she is a South African."

On the other hand, Miss Budd's Commonwealth Games aspirations, which are threatened by her absence from England, will not be brought into question by the Kenyans, one of the most prominent African members of the Commonwealth. Isiah Kiplangat, the vice-chairman of the Kenyan AAA, who was

even searching for Miss Budd at the post-race banquet to have his photograph taken with her, said: "We see no problem with Zola Budd. She has been accepted as a British citizen, and we accept that the country takes responsibility for her."

Kiplangat was also forthcoming on how his men's team had achieved their superb victory, with a virtual unknown, John Ngugi, winning and four other Kenyans finishing in the first eight out of a field of more than 300. Like Miss Budd, Ngugi enjoys the advantage of having been born and nurtured at altitude, which is an immense asset in long-distance running. The Kenyans take the first 15 in their national championship, which is over "a much tougher course than the world championships", according to Kiplangat, to a training camp situated at 9,000 feet for one month.

A week ago, the first nine in a six-kilometre race, half the world championship distance, were selected for the Kenyan team. This squad system, also used by the Ethiopians and the Spaniards, is something that the English have to consider seriously after equalling their lowest team place of eighth.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Penalty for Connors

New York - Jimmy Connors has been fined \$20,000 (£13,400) and suspended for 10 weeks for defaulting in a match last month, the men's International Professional Tennis Council (IPTC) announced yesterday. He therefore stands to miss the French Open starting on May 26.

Connors defaulted his semi-final match against Ivan Lendl in the Lipton international at Boca Raton, Florida, and was notified of the IPTC decision last Monday, when he had 30 days to appeal.

Connors is playing in a tournament in Chicago this week. If he begins his suspension immediately afterwards he would not be able to play again until the Queen's Club tournament before Wimbledon.

Waller returns
Chris Waller, the former Sussex cricketer, has rejoined Surrey to captain the second XI and help coach.

Schuster lured

Hamburg (Reuters) - Hamburg are trying to lure Barcelona's unsettled West German midfielder, Bernd Schuster, back to West Germany, the Hamburg president, Wolfgang Klein, said yesterday.

Paul Getty has donated £10,000 to Kent County Cricket Club's appeal fund to provide a multi-storey stand on the St Lawrence ground at Canterbury. The appeal has raised £150,000.

More cash
The prize money on the Scottish golf circuit will exceed £300,000 for the first time this year. The Scottish region of the PGA, who announced details of their tournament schedule yesterday, said that £336,000 will be at stake, an increase of £76,000 on 1985. The "Tartan Tour" surpassed £100,000 in 1980 and £200,000 in 1983.

The Dryburgh Scottish Professional Championship runs from August 7 to 10.

Damage at sea

Perth - New Zealand's two fibreglass America's Cup yachts, New Zealand I and New Zealand II, were damaged yesterday when they collided in the Indian Ocean off Fremantle.

Final victory

Bromont, Quebec (UPI) - Paul Frommelt, of Liechtenstein, won the parallel for men and Vreni Schneider, of Switzerland, won for the women in the final World Cup skiing races on Sunday. The results had no bearing on final positions.

The 1984 winners, Mary McKenna and Maureen Garner, fared better with a cushion of nine shots against Dennis Newham (Pitdown) and Michael Andrews (Highwoods), so much better indeed that their opponents could not look beyond them as likely winners - this week.

Newham, a Pitdown assistant, thought "someone would have to play under-par golf well under-par golf, to beat them".

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The women took advantage of their stroke holes and played solid golf to prevent a masculine counter-attack on the remaining holes. Even a 20-yard birdie putt at the 14th availed Newham nothing, for only an eagle would have kept the match alive against a net four.

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D	£6,000	£24.35	£27.57	£34.82	£48.51	18.6%
E	£10,000	£35.71	£41.42	£53.53	on app.	14.9%
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